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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

DISTRICT OF CACHAR.

BY

W. J. ALLEN, Esq.,

Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.

Calcutta:

JOHN GRAY, "BENGAL HURKARU" PRESS.

1859.

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No. 1002.

FROM

W. J. ALLEN, ESQUIRE,
Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation,

To

A. R. YOUNG, ESQUIRE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
FORT WILLIAM.

Dated Cherra Poonjee, the 16th December 1858.

SIR,

I DO myself the honor to submit a Report upon the public affairs of the District of Cachar.

2. Under orders of the Government of Bengal, Mr. A. Moffat Mills, a Judge of the Sudder Court, visited Cachar in the month of August 1853, and in the September following, submitted a very complete Report upon the District. No orders, I believe, have been passed on this Report, and therefore it seems unnecessary for me to enter again upon many of the subjects which have been so fully and ably discussed by that gentleman. I shall confine my observations to the present state of affairs, and notice any alterations and improvements in the administration of the District, that may have taken place since Mr. Mills' visit.

3. The Superintendent of Cachar exercises the functions of a Civil Judge, a Magistrate, a Collector of Revenue, a Post Master and a Register of Deeds.

4. By an order of the Government under date the 23rd of July 1856, Lieutenant R. Stewart, the Commandant of the Kookie Levy, was appointed Assistant to the Superintendent of Cachar on a consolidated salary of Rupees 600 a month, and a small Native Establishment* was sanctioned for the Assistant Superintendent's Office at a monthly cost of Rupees 32. The Assistant Superintendent exercised the powers of an Assistant Magistrate under Regulation III. of 1821 and of an Assistant Collector under Regulation VIII. of 1831; he was vested with no Civil Judicial powers.

	Monthly Salary.
*Moonshee	Rs. 16
Mohurrir	„ 8
Two Chupprasees, at 4 each	„ 8
Total ..	Rs. 32

5. Since Major Verner left the District, in April 1857, the Assistant Superintendent, Lieutenant R. Stewart, has officiated as Superintendent, retaining the Command of the Kookie Levy. On the 21st of December 1857, Dr. S. M. Shircore, the Civil Assistant Surgeon of Cachar, was appointed to officiate, for six months, as Assistant to the Superintendent in addition to his Medical duties, for which extra duty he was authorized to draw an allowance of Rupees 200 per mensem. Dr. Shircore's employment as Assistant was sanctioned for a further period of six months by the orders of the Bengal Government, No. 1760, dated the 9th of August 1858.

CIVIL DEPARTMENT.

6. The Superintendent performs all the duties of a Civil Judge of the Regulation Provinces, and in that capacity is immediately subordinate to the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut. He is assisted in this Department by two Moonsiffs,—one of whom is stationed at Silchar; the other, who is called the Moonsiff of Sealtekh, holds his Court at a large village called Kattigurrah, which is about 18 miles to the West of Silchar, and not far from the Sylhet boundary. As Civil Judge, the Superintendent decides all original Civil suits which are beyond the jurisdiction of the Moonsiffs, and he hears all appeals from the decisions and orders of those Officers. Appeals from the decisions of the Moonsiffs, in cases in which the Government is a party, are heard, with the sanction of the Sudder Court, by the Judge of Sylhet; the Superintendent having conducted these suits on the part of Government in the Court of the first instance, is, of course, precluded from giving a Judicial decision on them.

7. Appeals from the decisions and orders of the Superintendent in original suits, and all special appeals in cases originally decided by the Moonsiffs, lie to the Sudder Court.

8. Although this is a Non-Regulation Province, the administration of Civil Justice is conducted professedly in accordance with the Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Government; but the Stamp Laws are not in force here. Mr. Mills has observed that with reference to the poverty of the people he did not recommend the introduction of the Stamp Laws. The inhabitants of Cachar are certainly not more indigent than the ryots of the neighbouring Pergunnahs of Sylhet, and by all accounts they are much better off than the people of Assam, where the Stamp Laws have been lately introduced; but I consider all Stamp duties on Judicial proceedings an impolitic obstruction of justice, and am satisfied that the introduction of them into Cachar, at the present juncture, would have a very prejudicial effect upon the prosperity and improvement of the Province.

CIVIL COURT.

9. The accompanying Abstract Statement of Civil business in the Office of the Superintendent will show the nature and quantity of the business disposed of in the Court of the Superintendent of Cachar, during the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of Civil Business in the Office of the Superintendent of Cachar, during the Years 1854, 1855, 1856 *and* 1857.

Years.	Remaining from previous Year.	Instituted during the Year.	Total.	Disposed of.			Remaining at the end of the Year.	Letters.				Periodical Returns.				Witnesses examined during the Year.
				Decided on trial.	Settled and struck off.	Total.		Remaining from previous Year.	Received.	Written and Answered.	Remaining.	Remaining from previous Year.	Due during the Year.	Disposed of.	Pending.	
						Regular Suits and Appeals.										
1854	2	59	61	43	15	58	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
1855	3	60	63	49	11	60	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
1856	3	58	61	46	15	61	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
1857	0	70	70	40	23	63	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Total..	8	247	255	178	64	242	13	..	..	..	...	..	..	...	..	187
						Miscellaneous Cases, Petitions, Reports, &c.										
1854	3	520	523	502	18	520	3	..	37	16	..	..	31	31	..	..
1855	3	593	596	557	38	595	1	..	32	38	..	..	31	31	..	..
1856	1	494	495	480	11	491	4	..	47	30	..	..	31	31	..	..
1857	4	606	610	593	14	607	3	..	16	39	..	...	31	31	..	..
Total..	11	2,213	2,224	2,132	81	2,213	11	..	132	123	..	..	124	124	..	..

MEMORANDUM of the value of Suits decided on trial in 1854, 1855, 1856 *and* 1857.

Value of Suits.	1854.		1855.		1856.		1857.	
	Regular Suits.	Appeals.	Regular Suits.	Appeals.	Regular Suits.	Appeals.	Regular Suits.	Appeals.
Under 1 Rupee	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
From 1 to 5 Rupees.	..	5	..	10	1	6	..	3
„ 5 „ 10 „	..	7	..	9	..	9	..	4
„ 10 „ 20 „	..	11	..	11	..	13	..	11
„ 20 „ 50 „	..	10	..	7	..	11	..	9
„ 50 „ 100 „	..	6	..	4	..	3	..	7
Above 100 Rupees	1	3	3	4	1	2	1	3
Total....	1	42	3	46	2	44	1	39

Years.	Original Suits.	Appeals.
1854	1	42
1855	3	46
1856	2	44
1857	1	39

10. In the marginal Memorandum is exhibited the number of original suits and appeals decided by the Superintendent during this period. Almost all the suits are for small amounts; not one of them is of a value exceeding Rupees 1,000.

11. The business on the Civil side of the Superintendent's Court is not heavy; but considering the multifarious duties of the other Departments of the Office, it seems to me that Major Verner and Lieutenant Stewart are entitled to much credit for the regularity and despatch with which it has been disposed of.

MOONSIFFS' COURTS.

12. The subjoined Abstract Statements will show how the business of the Courts of the Moonsiffs of Silchar and Sealtekh has been disposed of during the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of Civil Business in the Office of the Sudder Moonsiff of Zillah Cachar, during the Years 1854, 1855, 1856 *and* 1857.

Years.	Kind of Cases.	Remaining from the previous Year.	Instituted during the Year.	Total.	Disposed of.			Pending at the end of the Year.	Remarks.
					Decided on trial.	Settled and struck off.	Total.		
1854	Regular Suits ..	62	347	409	259	83	342	67	Average duration of Regular Suits, 3 months and 14 days.
	Mis. Cases ..	27	194	221	122	62	184	37	
1855	Regular Suits ..	67	266	333	201	80	281	52	Average duration of Regular Suits, 3 months and 20 days.
	Mis. Cases ..	37	211	248	141	75	216	32	
1856	Regular Suits ..	52	257	309	129	118	247	62	Average duration of Regular Suits, 3 months and 7 days.
	Mis. Cases ..	32	157	189	106	63	169	20	
1857	Regular Suits ..	62	359	421	185	196	381	40	Average duration of Regular Suits, 3 months and 8 days.
	Mis. Cases ..	20	165	185	104	63	167	18	

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of Civil Business in the Office of the Moonsiff of Sealtekh, Zillah Cachar, during the Years 1854, 1855, 1856 *and* 1857.

Years.	Kind of Cases.	Remaining from the previous Year.	Instituted during the Year.	Total.	Disposed of.			Pending at the end of the Year.	Remarks.
					Decided on trial.	Settled and struck off.	Total.		
1854	Regular Suits ..	38	242	280	168	79	247	33	Average duration of Regular Suits,
	Mis. Cases ..	13	106	119	75	26	101	18	3 months and 5 days.
1855	Regular Suits ..	33	290	323	212	78	290	33	Average duration of Regular Suits,
	Mis. Cases ..	18	129	147	42	79	121	26	2 months and 13 days.
1856	Regular Suits ..	33	298	331	138	137	275	56	Average duration of Regular Suits,
	Mis. Cases ...	26	122	148	87	50	137	11	2 months and 12 days.
1857	Regular Suits ..	56	445	501	286	130	416	85	Average duration of Regular Suits,
	Mis. Cases ..	11	148	159	100	36	136	23	2 months and 14 days.

* Average duration of Suits.

Years.	Moonsiff of Silchar.		Moonsiff of Sealtekh.	
	Months.	Days.	Months.	Days.
1854	3	14	3	5
1855	3	20	2	13
1856	3	7	2	12
1857	3	8	2	14

The average duration of original suits* in either Court cannot be considered satisfactory; almost all these suits are, I believe, very petty and common cases, and it is probable that they would have been decided in about half the time had the Assam Civil Rules been in force in Cachar.

13. The result of the appeals from the decisions of the Moonsiffs for the last four years is given below; the average duration in the Superintendent's Court of the regular appeals of each year will be found in the last column of the Memorandum.

	No. of Appeals decided.	Confirmed.	Reversed or modified.	Remanded for further inquiry.	Average duration of Appeals in Superintendent's Court.	
					Months.	Days.
1854.						
Silchar Moonsiff ..	33	23	7	3	1	3
Sealtekh Moonsiff ..	20	9	6	5	1	3
1855.						
Silchar Moonsiff ..	42	23	11	8	1	8
Sealtekh Moonsiff ..	27	12	12	3	1	8
1856.						
Silchar Moonsiff ..	36	18	15	3	1	10
Sealtekh Moonsiff ..	28	14	7	7	1	10
1857.						
Silchar Moonsiff ..	33	22	6	5	2	23
Sealtekh Moonsiff ..	32	10	11	11	2	23

The results, as far as regards the Sealtekh Moonsiff, cannot be considered satisfactory. There appears to have been no unnecessary delay in disposing of these appeals in the Superintendent's Court. The increased average of duration of appeals in the year 1857 has been caused by the absence of the Superintendent

on leave, during which period the current duties of the District were conducted by the Assistant Superintendent, who was not vested with powers to hear appeals, which, in consequence, accumulated.

14. A Memorandum of the number of appeals preferred to the Sudder Court, during the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857, from the decisions and orders of the Superintendent of Cachar and his subordinates, is subjoined.

Appeals.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.
Special	2	5	14	15
Regular	0	3	3	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0
Total	2	8	17	15

There has been a remarkable increase in the number of special appeals to the Sudder Court during the years 1856 and 1857; no cause has been assigned for this increase, and probably it cannot be satisfactorily explained. I am of opinion that some alteration in the appellate jurisdiction of the Sudder Court is much required. I have already remarked that almost all the Civil suits in this District are petty cases; the inhabitants of Cachar are a simple and needy race, and have not the means of indulging in the expensive recreation of litigation in the superior Courts. An appeal to the Presidency Sudder Dewanny Adawlut from a decision of the Superintendent, is an impossibility to nine-tenths of those who resort to the Cachar Court for justice. The Superintendent is a Military Officer, who, at the commencement of his Civil career, is, of necessity, not only unlearned in Civil Law but absolutely inexperienced in the ordinary routine of Judicial business. From the decisions of an Officer so circumstanced there ought to be every facility of appeal. Under the present system it is quite the reverse. The Appellate Court is in Calcutta, and is so distant and so expensive that it may be said to be virtually inaccessible to the people. I venture to propose that all appeals from the decisions and orders of the Superintendent of Cachar in original suits in which the value does not exceed Rupees 5,000, shall be made to the Judge of Sylhet instead of, as at present, to the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut. Some arrangement such as this would give a facility of appeal in cases of this class, which would be, I believe, very acceptable to the people. Suitors would be able to attend to and carry on their appeals at Sylhet, who are quite unable to afford the expense of an appeal to the Sudder Court. Special appeals, of course, should be made, as at present, to the Sudder Court.

15. It is, I think, desirable that the Assistant to the Superintendent should be vested with Civil powers in order that he may be able to afford assistance in that Department. For the present he might be allowed to decide original suits of a value not

exceeding Rupees 500, and to hear such appeals from the decisions of the Moonsiffs as might be referred to him by the Superintendent. The appeal from his decisions in original suits should lie to the Judge of Sylhet. The present Officiating Assistant Superintendent, Dr. S. M. Shircore, is a very intelligent and prudent person, and might be safely entrusted with these Judicial duties. Should he remain in office for another year, the powers of a Sudder Ameen might be given to him with much advantage.

FOUJDARRY DEPARTMENT.

16. In the Foujdarry Department the Superintendent performs the duties of a Magistrate of the Regulation Provinces, and is subordinate to the Sessions Judge of Sylhet and the Nizamut Adawlut. He is assisted by an Assistant Superintendent, who exercises the special powers described in Regulation III. of 1821. The Assistant Superintendent took his seat for the first time on the 1st of August 1858; up to that time the Superintendent performed all the Magisterial duties of the District unassisted.

17. All Criminal appeals from the decisions and orders of the Superintendent, and all commitments, are made to the Sessions Judge of Sylhet. Appeals from the decisions and orders of the Assistant Superintendent are preferred to the Sessions Judge and the Superintendent, with reference to the provisions of Act XXXI. of 1841.

18. The annexed Abstract Tabular Statement* shows how the Criminal and Police business of the District was disposed of during the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857. The number of heinous and petty offences ascertained to have been committed during these four years is as per margin. The heinous offences consist, for the most part, of burglaries and petty thefts, and the great majority of these cases have not been investigated by the Police, because the parties robbed declined to prosecute. During the last three years there has been a considerable increase in the number of petty offences, which, according to the Superintendent, is attributable "to the corresponding increase of the "population." Most of these cases are petty assaults, abusive and threatening language, and the like, and more than half of them have been settled out of Court.

Years.	Offences.	
	Heinous.	Petty.
1854	109	156
1855	81	358
1856	86	515
1857	139	597

19. The number of heinous and petty cases tried and decided by the Superintendent during these four years will be found on the marginal Table.

Years.	Cases tried.	
	Heinous.	Petty.
1854	29	90
1855	25	138
1856	18	202
1857	21	110

**ABSTRACT STATEMENT of Criminal and Police Business in the Office of the Superintendent of Cachar, during the Years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857.*

Years.	Remaining from the previous Year.	Instituted during the Year.	Total.	Disposed of.				Remaining at the end of the Year.	Letters.				Periodical Returns.				Witnesses examined in the Year.	Remarks.
				Committed to Sessions.	Decided on trial.	Settled and struck off.	Total.		Remaining from previous Year	Received.	Written and Answered.	Remaining.	Remaining from previous Year	Due during the Year.	Disposed of.	Pending.		
						Heinous and Petty Cases and Appeals.												
1854	1	265	266	2	123	140	265	1	...	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	1,259	There were no Appeals in these years.
1855	1	439	440	3	160	277	440	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,175	
1856	..	601	601	...	220	381	601	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	1,373	
1857	...	736	736	4	127	604	735	1	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	2,075	
Total...	2	2,041	2,043	9	630	1,402	2,041	2	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	5,882	
						Miscellaneous Cases, Petitions, Reports, &c.												
1854	..	1,677	1,677	..	1,673	..	1,673	4	..	135	153	..	..	126	126	..	..	
1855	4	1,919	1,923	..	1,914	..	1,914	9	..	215	168	..	..	126	126	..	..	
1856	9	2,297	2,306	..	2,306	..	2,306	..	..	150	128	..	..	216	216	..	..	
1857	..	1,699	1,699	..	1,692	..	1,692	7	..	94	247	..	...	216	216	..	..	
Total...	13	7,592	7,605	..	7,585	..	7,585	20	..	594	696	..	..	684	684	..	..	

20. The number of persons brought to trial in the Cachar Court during the last four years, and the manner in which they have been disposed of, are shown below :—

Years.	Brought to trial.		Committed to Sessions.		Convicted.		Acquitted.	
	Heinous.	Petty.	Heinous.	Petty.	Heinous.	Petty.	Heinous.	Petty.
1854	68	170	20	..	29	140	18	30
1855	47	161	4	4	42	128	1	29
1856	34	255	..	..	31	241	3	14
1857	80	221	21	..	19	198	34	23

The proportion of convictions to acquittals in heinous cases, for the years 1855 and 1856, is remarkably large.* When a Magistrate apprehends 43 persons accused of heinous offences, and acquits only 1 of them, there must be something behind the scenes. Every one who understands the working of the Mofussil Police system, knows that the most efficient Magistrate and the best trained Police cannot produce results of that kind; in making inquiries into heinous cases, they must, of necessity, arrest a certain number of accused and suspected persons against whom full legal proof is not obtainable.

Years.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1855..	42	1
1856...	31	3

21. The work has been well brought up during the whole of the period under review. The number of witnesses examined in the Foujdarry Department during each year is as per margin. During the years 1856 and 1857 all the witnesses were discharged on the first day of their attendance; during the preceding years, only very few witnesses were detained for two days.

Years.	Witnesses.
1854	1,259
1855	1,175
1856	1,378
1857	2,075

SESSIONS COURT.

22. During the year 1856 no case was committed for trial before the Sessions Court; the result of the commitments of 1854, 1855 and 1857 is as per margin.

Years.	No. of Cases.	Number of Persons tried.	Referred to Nizamut Adawlut.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
1854..	2	20	11	0	9
1855..	3	8	0	4	4
1857	4	21	7	1	13

Note.—The two cases committed in 1854 were tried by the Sessions Judge in 1856.

23. The number of appeals from the decisions and orders of the Superintendent and his subordinates in Criminal cases and in suits under Act IV. of 1840, which has

been decided by the Court of Sessions during the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857, and the result of those appeals, will be found in the following Tabular Statements:—

STATEMENT of APPEALS from the orders of the Superintendent of Cachar and his Subordinates, decided by the Court of Sessions at Sylhet, during the Years 1854, 1855, 1856 *and* 1857.

	Number of Appeals decided.	1854.			1855.			1856.			1857.		
		Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.
Regular Appeals	14	..	1	1	..	3	..	..	2	1	..	5	1
Miscellaneous Appeals ...	14	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	2	7	1
Total ...	28	..	2	1	..	5	..	1	2	1	2	12	2

STATEMENT of APPEALS from the orders of the Superintendent of Cachar and his Subordinates in Cases under Act IV. of 1840, *decided by the Sessions Court of Sylhet, during the Years* 1854, 1855, 1856 *and* 1857.

Number of Appeals decided.	1854.			1855.			1856.			1857.		
	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.
21	..	1	..	..	3	1	1	6	1	..	4	4

24. When Mr. Mills visited Cachar in 1853, the Sessions Judge of Sylhet was Superintendent of Police in that District; but that office was subsequently transferred, under orders* of the Bengal Government, to the Commissioner of Circuit of the Dacca Division; in other respects all the Police arrangements are as they were in 1853. There are three Police Thannahs,† and their respective Establishments remain without alteration.

* No. 358, dated 27th December 1854.

† Thannahs.	Darogahs.	Mohurirs.	Jemadars.	Burkundazes.
Sudder Thannah	1	1	1	10
Hyleakandy Thannah	1	0	1	6
Katigurrah Thannah	1	0	1	6

25. The Superintendent has brought to my notice that there has been a very considerable increase in the population and Police business of the District since 1853, and there can be no doubt that this is the case. He has urgently solicited that two additional Burkundazes may be given to the Sudder Thannah, and one additional Burkundaze to each of the other two Thannahs. I am of opinion that this small increase of Establishment is absolutely necessary for the efficient performance of the Police duties of the District. I therefore venture to recommend the Superintendent's proposition to the favorable consideration of the Government.

26. The Superintendent has again represented the necessity of establishing a Police post at Luckipore, and has recommended that a small Police Establishment* should be entertained for that purpose, the monthly expense of which, according to the new scale of Police allowances, will amount to Rupees 61. I think a Police station at Luckipore is urgently required to watch the Frontier, and to supply the Superintendent with useful information from that part of the Country. Now it is a matter of much difficulty to procure trustworthy intelligence of any kind from that quarter. Luckipore is about eighteen miles to the East of Silchar, and about eight miles from the Munneepore Frontier; it is the largest village in that direction, and in the whole of the extensive tract of Country which extends from Silchar to the Munneepore Territory there is not a Police station of any description. Since the month of February last a Detachment of the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion, of the strength noted on the margin, has been posted at Luckipore, chiefly with the view of keeping in check the Munneepore settlers in that direction, who at one time seemed inclined to sympathize with, and espouse the cause of the Munneepore Prince, Norindrojeet Sing, who joined the mutineers and fought on their side in January last. If a Police station be established in Luckipore, the Military Detachment on duty there might, in all probability, be withdrawn, which would be a great advantage, as the services of these men are very much required elsewhere.

* Officers, &c.	Monthly Salary.		
	Rs.	As.	P.
Mohurir	30	0	0
Jemadar	10	0	0
Five Burkundazes, at 4 Rs. each	20	0	0
Oil and Paper	1	0	0
Total	61	0	0

One Jemadar.
One Havildar.
Two Naika.
Forty Sepoys.

27. A part of the expense of the proposed increase of the Police might be defrayed by the abolition of the scouts, who have been entertained since the year 1850 at a monthly expense of Rupees 48, for the purpose of watching the Lloochay Kookies. This tribe has remained peaceable for some years, and this establishment of scouts seems to be now no longer required; its abolition was recommended by Mr. Mills and Major Verner in the year 1853, and the present officiating Superintendent has informed me that its services can be dispensed with.

28. In August last certain alterations in the jurisdictions of the three Thannahs were effected under the sanction* of Government, with the view of making a more equal distribution of the Police business among the three Thannahs. Under the former arrangement more than half of the work of the District was thrown on the Sudder Thannah; by transferring certain villages on the West of that Thannah to the Eastern portions of Thannahs Hyleakandy and Katigurrah, the jurisdiction of all the three Thannahs has been made much more compact. The Superintendent proposed, at one time, to remove the Thannah of Hyleakandy from its present position at Burbarry Haut to the neighbourhood of Mohunpore; but when he proceeded into the Mofussil to fix upon a new site for the Thannah, he found cultivation had extended so far to the South, and the Thannah was placed in such a thickly-populated part of the Country, that he considered it inexpedient to carry out his intentions regarding its removal. I am of opinion that he has acted with discretion in allowing it to remain where it is.

* Orders No. 2991, dated 2nd August 1858.

RURAL POLICE.

29. The Mofussil Chowkeydaree Establishment is precisely in the same inefficient state as it was in 1853. One Chowkeydar is appointed to every sixty-four houses, and

collects a precarious pittance of one Pice per mensem from each house under his charge. There are 325 Chowkeydars scattered over the District, who receive annually from the inhabitants an aggregate sum of Rupees 3,900.

30. The Cachar Chowkeydar is not a watchman, for he pretends not to keep watch at night; he considers it his duty to report to the nearest Police Station all heinous offences committed in his jurisdiction, and to render some sort of assistance to the Police when they come to enquire into them. In fact, the Chowkeydars perform only nominal service for their very scanty pay, which, of course, is altogether insufficient for their support.

31. The Superintendent has informed me that the Chowkeydars are so much dissatisfied with their condition, that when a Chowkeydar is dismissed from, or throws up his situation, it is a matter of difficulty to find a person who is willing to replace him. As a new settlement of the District is to be made during this cold weather, opportunity will be taken to remodel entirely the Rural Police. The Superintendent has submitted to me a scheme which is under consideration, and will be reported on as soon as further information on the subject is obtained. He has proposed to levy a Chowkeydaree Tax of one Anna on every Rupee of the jumma of all malgoozary lands, and to abolish all other Chowkeydaree payments by the inhabitants, to reduce the number of Chowkeydars from 325 to 200, and to fix the pay of each Chowkeydar at four Rupees a month. No doubt a scheme of this kind, with some modification and amendment, if it can be carried out, would be a vast improvement on the existing system, inasmuch as efficient service would be procured, the burden of the poorer classes would be lightened, and the principal portion of the tax would be thrown on the shoulders of those who are best able to bear it.

SONAPOOR MEERASDARS.

32. The Superintendent made a special representation to me regarding the misconduct of Sona Mea and other Mahomedan Meerasdars of Pergunnah Sonapoor, who, by their violence and dissensions, have kept that Pergunnah in a state of constant alarm and disorder for the last four or five years. One of the two contending parties is headed by Sona Mea and his two sons; the other by three brothers—Aspo Mea, Subdar Mea and Hareedhun. The origin of the quarrel, which commenced about eight years ago, was the death of an elephant belonging to Sona Mea, which had been hired to the other party, who were suspected by the owner, apparently not without cause, of having maliciously killed his elephant. Both parties appear to have committed, or attempted to commit, every kind of crime and misdemeanor; all of them bear exceedingly bad characters, and are quite a scourge to that part of the Country. The Superintendent submitted a proposition to me, demi-officially, to punish them by not permitting them to settle again, under the new settlement, for the lands which they held under the last settlement, which has just expired. I did not, however, consider it expedient to deal with these turbulent and lawless Meerasdars in this manner. Although settlement might have been refused to them without any illegality, it seemed to me that a measure such as this, however well-deserved, might alarm the Cachar Landholders, and be productive of other inconveniences. I therefore directed the Superintendent to endeavor to stop these acts of violence by a prompt and vigorous administration of the law. The Superintendent has since reported to me that he has succeeded in arresting about fifty or sixty of these disturbers

of the peace. If they be prosecuted to conviction, it is to be hoped that the disgraceful outrages which have been so common for the last four or five years in Pergunnah Sonapoor, may be effectually put down.

MUNNEEPORE REFUGEE PRINCES.

33. Under the orders of Government, as per margin, thirteen Members of the Munneepore Royal Family have been removed from the District and sent to reside at Nuddea. Several of these persons had been engaged in more than one hostile expedition against the reigning Rajah of Munneepore, and they were always plotting to subvert his Government. Their removal to a distance, no doubt, will have a very salutary effect upon the large Munneepore population of Cachar, and it is likely to strengthen and confirm the friendly feelings of the Munneepore Ruler towards our Government, for, of course, he could not understand why a friendly power permitted these pauper Princes to be continually organizing attacks upon him, whilst they were residing in the British Territory.

No. 1030, dated 5th June 1858.

JAIL.

34. The Cachar Jail has been described by Mr. Mills and the Inspector of Jails; it is very much in the same state as it was when the former gentleman visited it in 1853. It is said to be well ventilated, and is generally very healthy. During the last four years the average number of prisoners has never, I believe, exceeded 40. The number of prisoners, however, seems to be increasing, for on the 1st of October 1858 there were 81 persons* in the Jail. Almost all the prisoners are in confinement for petty offences and misdemeanors and for short periods, and in consequence manufactures within the walls of the Jail have not yet been introduced. All the laboring convicts are employed in cleaning the Jail and drains and ditches of the station, and in repairing the station roads.

* Laboring prisoners 39
Non-laboring ditto 35
Female ditto 1
Civil ditto 1
Sick in Hospital 5
81

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

35. In the Revenue Department the Superintendent has the powers of a Collector of Revenue, and is subordinate to the Commissioner of Revenue of the Dacca Division and the Board of Revenue Lower Provinces. The Assistant Superintendent has the special powers described in Regulation VIII. of 1831, and is chiefly employed in deciding summary suits for rent and such minor miscellaneous cases as may be made over to him by his Principal. It appears that hitherto the Assistant Superintendent has not been employed in making settlements, and the Superintendent has informed me that he wishes the Assistant to be empowered to assist him in that Department. I have intimated to the Superintendent that no special orders on that subject are required, and that he is at liberty, according to his own discretion, to make over to his Assistant such settlement cases as that Officer is able to dispose of satisfactorily. There is generally on the file a large number of petty cases of this kind, which will afford useful employment for the Assistant Superintendent.

36. Mr. Mills, in his Report, has given a complete account of the Revenue system of Cachar under the Native Government, and of all the Revenue arrangements and settlements that have been made from time to time, since the Province came under the direct administration of British Officers; it seems, therefore, unnecessary for me to enter again into details on subjects which have been so ably discussed and fully explained by that gentleman.

37. The chief source of Revenue in Cachar is and always has been the land. Under the orders of the Board of Revenue, the Province is considered and treated as a "Govern-"ment Estate." Occupiers and holders of land are the Government tenants, whose lands are leased to them for a certain fixed term of years, the Government reserving to itself the right of increasing or decreasing the rates on the expiration of each period of settlement. Although no land has been permanently settled in Cachar, the ryots and other occupants of land, who are commonly called "Meerasdars," consider themselves, and in practice are, the proprietors of the soil as long as they pay the Government demand on their holdings. They find no difficulty in disposing of their lands at fair prices—a fact which seems to indicate that the people have entire confidence in the justice and moderation of their landlord.

38. The last settlement, which was made for fifteen years, from the beginning of the year 1843-44, expired on the 30th of April 1858. Under that settlement all cleared and cultivated lands were assessed at the uniform rate of 3 Rupees per koolbah. In a few exceptional places, where the lands are manifestly of inferior quality, or where the crops are much exposed to damage or deterioration from wild animals, scarcity of water and other causes, a rate of 2 Rupees per koolbah was imposed on all cleared lands.

39. At the first settlement jungle lands were leased for fifteen years on the terms noted on the margin. After the rent free period had elapsed, and the second or half-rent period had commenced, many of these petty grantees found themselves unable to pay their Revenue, and the proprietors of 382 of these jungle tenures relinquished their lands; those who wished to retain the cleared and cultivated portions of their grants, were permitted to do so on payment of the full uniform rate of assessment, *viz.*, 3 Rupees per koolbah.

1st period of five years, rent free.
2nd period of five years, 1 Rupee 8 Annas per koolbah.
3rd period of five years, 3 Rupees per koolbah.

40. When Mr. Mills visited Cachar in August 1853, the last five years of the last settlement had just commenced. The proprietors of these jungle grants, who had not surrendered their lands, were very clamorous to him for relief; they averred that the full rate of 3 Rupees per koolbah was ruinous, and that they were unable to pay it. After making inquiries into the complaints of the petitioners, Mr. Mills thought it necessary to report, for the information of Government, that fears were "generally entertained of the "inability of some of the grantees of the jungle lands to meet the increased demand to "which, under the conditions of the grant, they are liable." Major Verner, the Superintendent, an able Officer of large experience, participated in these apprehensions. I am, however, happy to say that the event has proved that these gloomy anticipations were perfectly groundless. Very few of the grantees, who so earnestly begged for relief in 1853-54, and represented themselves to be on the brink of ruin, resigned their grants; the few small tenures that were thrown up, were eagerly taken by other parties, who continue to pay, with punctuality, the assessment imposed on these lands at the last settlement.

41. It is, I think, likely that the large grants of jungle lands that have been taken up during the last two years and a half for the cultivation of Tea, may have contributed, in some degree, to prevent these petty grantees from throwing up their jungle lands. No doubt these large grants to European speculators have opened the eyes of the Native population to the value of these waste lands, and the Native grantees have wisely determined on retaining the lands, which they had intended to surrender when the time came to pay for them at the full rate.

42. In a Tabular form below will be found a Statement of the Demands, Collections, Remissions and Balances of Land Revenue for the last five years of the last settlement.

Year.	Demands.			Collected.									Remissions.			Balances.
				In the Year.			Afterwards.			Total.						
	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	
1853-54	66,400	8	11	66,074	6	11	172	14	3	66,247	5	2	153	3	9	0
1854-55 ..	67,659	13	0	67,302	7	10	264	11	7	67,567	3	5	92	9	7	0
1855-56 ..	69,268	12	1	69,131	7	5	21	7	7	69,152	15	0	115	13	1	0
1856-57 ..	74,524	6	0	74,331	7	8	43	8	8	74,374	15	11	149	6	1	0
1857-58 ..	81,676	8	3	81,440	15	11	193	14	6	81,634	14	5	41	9	10	0

The financial result of this period will, I think, be considered very satisfactory. There are 8,710 separate mehals on the towjee, and the collections have been made, mostly in small sums, from about 50,000 malgoozars, the great majority of whom are tillers of the soil. The steady progressive increase of the Revenue, the comparative smallness of the remissions, and the realization of all good balances, sufficiently prove that the cry of over-assessment raised in the year 1853-54 was without foundation, and that the Revenue of the District has been managed with much ability and success by the Superintendent.

43. During the year there are three demands of Land Revenue,—the 1st in July, the 2nd in October, and the 3rd and last in January. These demands are payable respectively in all September, December and March. The Land Revenue collections are made by Tehseeldars, armed with the powers of distraint and sale, exactly in the same manner as they were when Mr. Mills was in Cachar in 1853. The Province is divided, for fiscal purposes, into three Tehseels, which are situated at the Sudder Station, Hyleakandy and Katigurrah ; to each of these Tehseels is attached the Establishment noted on the margin. The collections are made with punctuality, and distraint and sale of personal property are not frequently resorted to. The system seems to work well, though, as Mr. Mills has observed, the Tehseel Establishment is much under-paid. When the resources of the Country admit of it, these Tehseeldaree Establishments ought to be put on a more satisfactory footing, for it is not prudent to entrust large collections and powers to under-paid Native Officers, who sooner or later will cheat either the Government or the people, and perhaps both.

Tehseels.	Officers.			
Sudder Tehseel	2 Mohurirs	at 10 each	Rs.	20
	2 Mudut Ditto	„ 4 „	„	8
	4 Burkundazes	„ 3 „	„	12
	6 Ditto	„ 2 „	„	12
	Total ..		Rs.	52
Hyleakandy Tehseel ..	1 Mohurir		Rs.	12
	1 Ditto		„	10
	2 Mudut Ditto	at 4 each..	„	8
	4 Burkundazes	„ 3 „ ..	„	12
	6 Ditto	„ 2 „ ..	„	12
	Total ..		Rs.	54
Katigurrah Tehseel ..	1 Mohurir		Rs.	10
	1 Ditto		„	9
	2 Mudut Ditto	at 4 each..	„	8
	4 Burkundazes	„ 3 „ ..	„	12
	6 Ditto,	„ 2 „ ..	„	12
	Total ..		Rs.	51

TRANSFER OF DEFAULTERS' LANDS.

44. Lands are not sold in Cachar for arrears of Revenue. Under a local rule, known by the name of the "Ghosawut rule," which was passed on the 23rd of April 1833 by the Governor General's Agent on the North East Frontier, Mr. T. C. Robertson, lands of defaulting Meerasdars were treated as khass and transferred to any person who paid the arrears of the defaulter. Under this rule, if the defaulter paid the balance, within two years from the date on which the tenure was declared khass, he was permitted to re-enter upon his estate, otherwise it became absolutely the property of the transferee.

45. That part of the rule, which allows the redemption of a transferred estate by the defaulter, has been lately rescinded by the orders of Government, No. 1247, dated the 29th of May 1858, and now a mehal is liable to immediate and absolute transfer for any arrears that may have been due for more than one month.

46. The number and jumma of the mehals transferred during the last five years, under the operation of this rule, are shown on the marginal Table. The Superintendent states that this rule has been found to work well for many years, and has not been abused, and he is of opinion that "it is popular enough among the "people, more so than sales of land for arrears of "Revenue would be." I have no reason to believe that it is otherwise. The lands which have been hitherto transferred under this rule are, for the most part, jungle lands, which are not of great value. The people do not seem to evince any great desire to acquire lands under this rule, for a large estate,* lately transferred to the Cachar Company under it, has been in arrears for several years, and no one came forward to pay the balance and claim the estate.

Years.	Number of Mehals.	Jumma.		
		Rs.	As.	P.
1853-54 ..	3	537	3	11
1854-55 ..	7	244	3	7
1855-56 ..	6	522	13	6
1856-57 ..	0	0	0	0
1857-58 ..	3	10	8	0
Total	19	1,314	13	0

* Gungapoor.

47. Although this rule seems, at present, not ill adapted to the peculiar circumstances of Cachar, its operation ought, I think, to be very narrowly watched by the Commissioner and the Board, for there is in it the germ of oppression and abuse. Such a rule in a Bengal district would ruin half its Zumeendars in about a twelve-month. The Amlah of the Collectorate and the Courts, the Vakeels and Mookhtears would intrigue, the Revenue would be purposely withheld by corrupt and bribed underlings, and the Zumeendar, perhaps, before he knew he was a defaulter, would find himself ejected from his estate by an acute "Ghosawutdar," probably the tool or the connection of some of the Government Native Officers at the sudder station. Besides, a Landholder, though a defaulter, may possess an estate of considerable value, and it appears to me that he has an inherent right to have his mehal publicly and fairly sold for whatever it may fetch; a hole and corner transfer by "Ghosawut" would, of course, be ruinous to him.

48. The "Ghosawut" rule may work well just now; but there are in it elements of mischief which ought not to be overlooked. When land becomes more valuable, and when the population increases and becomes more civilized, landed transfers of this kind must, in my opinion, eventually lead to very evil consequences, and cannot be satisfactory to Landholders, who are sufficiently enlightened to understand their own interests.

WASTE RICE LANDS.

49. Since the year 1843-44, waste lands, favorably situated and fitted for the cultivation of rice, have been usually leased in this Province for fifteen years at the rates noted on the margin. A reasonable reduction on these rates has been always allowed when lands are not of the average quality, or are disadvantageously situated. Waste lands of the latter description, in remote localities at the foot of the Hills in the North or in the far South beyond the ordinary limits of cultivation on the banks of the Dullesur and Rookai Rivers, are settled for the same period, but at somewhat less than half the rates of assessment above-mentioned. The reduction of the rent-free period from five to three years has been found to work very well.

The first three years, rent free.
The next four years, 1 Rupee per koolbah.
The next four years, 2 Rupees per koolbah.
The last four years, 3 Rupees per koolbah.

50. The accompanying Tabular Statement shows the area and jumma of the waste lands settled during each of the last five years* of the last settlement.

* From 1853-54 to 1857-58.

STATEMENT showing Area and Jumma of Jungle Lands settled in the District of Cachar from 1853-54 *to* 1857-58.

Years.	Number of Mehals.	Area of Land.			Total Revenue.		
		Acres.	Roods.	Poles.	Rs.	As.	P.
1853-54	241	7,735	3	7	4,286	7	4
1854-55	238	7,322	1	7	4,106	12	9
1855-56	218	9,254	3	0	4,978	8	1
1856-57	223	11,036	3	11	5,637	3	7
1857-58	353	21,459	0	0	12,112	11	1
Total	1,273	56,808	2	29	31,121	10	10

The Revenue shown in the last column of the Statement is the jumma payable when the progressive jumma has arrived at maturity. The Superintendent has evidently made great exertions to extend the cultivation and improve the resources of his District. I ought to mention that in the Memorandum of new cultivation, above referred to, the lands taken up for the cultivation of Tea have not been included.

TEA GRANTS.

51. The orders of Government, No. 45, dated the 12th of January 1856, authorized the introduction, into Cachar, of the "Rules for the grant of waste lands in Assam." Under these Rules thirty-eight applications* for waste lands have been registered, the aggregate area of which is about 91,000 acres. The settlement of only one Tea grant has as yet been completed. On the 28th of April last the first grant of land in Cachar for the cultivation of Tea was finally sanctioned by me. The grantee is Mr. Williamson, the enterprising gentleman who may be said to have given the first impetus to the cultivation of Tea in Cachar. Under the orders† of Government, an additional rent-free year has been accorded to this gentleman.

* Appendix A.

† No. 45, dated 12th January 1856, Para. 2.

52. The settlement of these lands has been much delayed in consequence of the Superintendent having been unable to procure competent Native Surveyors to survey the tracts applied for; delay also has been occasioned by the difficult nature of the Country in which many of these grants are situated, the lands being covered with almost impenetrable tree jungle. The proceedings of the Superintendent have also been much impeded by the lax and imperfect manner in which many of the applicants have described and defined their boundaries, and by their having included in their applications, and pointed out for survey, lands which are not available for this purpose under the Regulations in force. A scientific survey of all these grants will be made during this cold season, after which, I trust, the Superintendent will find no difficulty in completing the settlements of these Tea lands, within a reasonable period. There is, I understand, good ground for supposing that the rough surveys that have been made by the Native Ameens are far from accurate, and it is, in my opinion, altogether inexpedient to grant long leases of these extensive and valuable tracts, till they have been surveyed by a trustworthy and competent person.

53. Although these grants have not yet been formally completed, the parties who have applied for them have been permitted to commence operations within their own boundaries, on the understanding that formal leases will be given to them as soon as the necessary inquiries and proceedings have been completed. The Superintendent has informed me that more than 1,000 acres have been already cleared and planted with Tea by the parties who have been placed in possession of these jungle lands.

54. The Superintendent has represented to me, and I have heard from other quarters, that the granting of these waste lands to European speculators for the cultivation of Tea at these low rates and for this long period, has been viewed with some jealousy and dissatisfaction by the Native population in the neighbourhood. Although these Tea lands are, for the most part, low hills, covered with dense tree jungle, which are not suited for the cultivation of rice or other common country crops, the neighbouring ryots consider these Tea plantations a grievance, because from time immemorial they have been in the habit of supplying themselves, free of cost, from these jungles, with timber, firewood, bamboos, cane, &c. A considerable portion of these forest lands has now been taken up by the Tea Planters, and in consequence the neighbouring ryots are put to some expense and inconvenience for firewood and other jungle articles. This jealousy and discontent, however, will be but temporary, for the money expended by the Tea Planters in their business, will afford ample compensation to the peasantry for the loss of the produce of the jungles. During the last year and a half the Planters have expended at least Rupees 50,000 among the laboring classes, and there can be no doubt that the cultivation of Tea will contribute very largely to the improvement of the District and the comfort and prosperity of the people.

55. Some of the parties who have applied, under the Assam Rules, for waste lands for the cultivation of Tea are under the impression that their mere application to the Superintendent entitles them to obtain whatever waste lands they ask for. The Superintendent is of opinion that before grants of extensive tracts of land are made, the Local Authority is bound to satisfy himself that the applicant is provided with means sufficient to clear and cultivate the lands he has applied for. It seems to me that the Superintendent has taken the correct view of the manner in which the orders of Government regarding these waste lands ought to be carried out, for it could not have been the intention of Government to grant extensive tracts of valuable waste lands to every penniless adventurer, or bubble Company that might apply for them.

56. It has been reported to me by the Superintendent that a gentleman named Mr. J. Hogg, who has applied for a grant of 15,667 acres, cannot be prevailed upon to afford any satisfactory information regarding the means at his disposal for the cultivation of these lands. He has stated that an "Association," with a capital of Rupees 75,000 is about to undertake the cultivation of this grant, and that he has already expended Rupees 7,000 in the cultivation of three acres of land! The nominal capital of the "Association" is, of course, not sufficient for the cultivation of so large a grant. Mr. Hogg has no acknowledged means of his own, and nothing can be ascertained regarding his "Association." Upon the strength of his application he now claims all the timber, bamboos, cane, thatching grass and other jungle produce on the lands within his boundaries, which are said to be worth several thousands of Rupees, and he wishes to deprive the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of the forest rights, which they have exercised and enjoyed for many generations. If extravagant and pernicious pretensions of this kind be brought forward and allowed, no doubt Tea Planters and Tea planting will become very obnoxious to the people. In my opinion no applicant for a grant should be placed in possession of any lands till he has fully satisfied the District Officer that he has the means of cultivating them, as required by the Assam Rules. Unless some such restriction as this be imposed, there will ultimately be serious inconvenience and loss, for persons will apply for grants and obtain possession of these forest lands merely for the sake of selling the timber and other jungle produce, and will throw up their lands after having rendered them unfit for Tea cultivation by destroying the trees which are required to shade the Tea plant.

57. After it had been determined to place applicants for grants in possession of the lands they had applied for till a regular settlement could be made, the Superintendent, Major Verner, issued a Circular* to the Tea Planters, directing them to make their clearances only in one locality. The Board of Revenue, however, set aside† this order, and allowed the Planters "to carry on operations, within reasonable limits, in places not likely "to be brought into other grants, or to clash with the Tea cultivation of other parties." The practical effect of this order of the Board has been, that the Planters have cleared and cultivated wherever they pleased within the boundaries vaguely specified in their respective applications. The present Superintendent has represented to me that the system which has sprung out of these orders of the Board, has been already found inconvenient and is likely to become much more so. He has brought to notice the following instance in which this broad permission to cultivate is likely to be attended with very embarrassing consequences.

* Appendix B.

† Appendix C.

58. Messrs. Borradaile and Company, of Calcutta, have applied, under the Assam Rules, for three grants* of waste lands in Pergunnah Seraspoor, all of which are connected with each other and "run from North to "South a distance of eleven miles, having a frontage on the plain "lands of Seraspoor on the banks of the River Dullesur"; the mean breadth of these grants is about three-fourths of a mile. The object of the grantees is to secure the largest possible frontage. If these grants be sanctioned, a large quantity of valuable land, well-fitted for the cultivation of Tea, will be rendered valueless and unavailable for this and indeed for any other purpose, "all communication with the plains of Seraspoor and the "River Dullesur being cut off by the interposition of these grants as surveyed."

Dullodhur.
Chundipoor.
Bansbary.

59. Grants of this kind, so manifestly injurious to the interests of the Government and the Public, are not likely, I presume, to receive the sanction of the superior Au-

thorities; but the grantees, in order to support and strengthen their applications for these lands, have taken advantage of the Board's order above referred to, and have already made clearances of small parcels of land all along their narrow strips of land facing Seraspoor. These petty clearances will, of course, be brought forward, at the proper time, in support of the applicant's claim to lands, which, if I am correctly informed, cannot, I think, be granted to them without detriment to the public interests.

60. I would, with deference, recommend that the Board's orders on this subject be modified. There is, I believe, no necessity rigidly to restrict cultivation in these cases to one locality; but I consider no applicant should be permitted to commence cultivation in more than one spot without having previously obtained in writing the special permission of the Superintendent to do so. In large and unexplored forest tracts it is perfectly impossible to determine what are "reasonable limits," and what are "places not likely to "be brought into other grants, or to clash with the Tea cultivation of other parties." Under these circumstances it appears to me that the number of places where clearances and cultivation are to be made ought to be left to the discretion of the Superintendent. Had this been done at first, several difficulties which are looming in the future might, in all probability, have been avoided.

61. In the Revenue Department of the Superintendent's Office a rather singular practice obtains which, though not sanctioned by Law, or any Rule having the force of Law, is said to have prevailed ever since the Province came into the possession of the British Government, and to have worked with much advantage to the people. Lands are settled in this District under the Distinct understanding that they are to be cleared and cultivated within a certain specified period. "Whenever an estate is taken up in "partnership by any number of individuals, the refusal of one or more of the parties "to cultivate causes loss to the remainder." To remedy this evil, it has been the practice, on the complaint of one or more of the partners against such of their co-parceners who have neglected to cultivate, for the Superintendent to summon the latter, and, after inquiry, if neglect of cultivation be proved, to bind down the offending parties, by mochulka, to clear their lands within a certain given time. If they neglect to attend to this order, they are punished by the forfeiture of their mochulkas. The Superintendent has informed me "that this rule also extends to contiguous estates, as well as to shares in the same one." I have not heard any complaint against this practice, and the Superintendent states that it is "most excellently adapted for a jungly Country where it would be difficult to carry "on without it." I believe that this local bye-law has been found very useful and is not objected to by the people; but I think it ought to be legalized, which, as Cachar is a Non-Regulation Province, can easily be done by an order of the Government.

THE NEW SETTLEMENT.

62. The last settlement, which expired on the 30th of April 1858, has been prolonged by proclamation for another year, *viz.* 1858-59. Owing to the entrance of the mutineers of the 34th Regiment Native Infantry into the Province during the cold season of 1857-58, and the Military operations consequent thereon, the Superintendent was able to do but little towards the formation of a new settlement during last season. Mr. G. M. Reily, Deputy Collector, has been appointed to conduct the settlement, and the Deputy Surveyor General has been requested to supply a Surveyor to survey the

lands, which are not included in Major Thuillier's Survey. The nature of the projected Survey operations in connection with the new settlement, has been already separately reported and explained to the Government.

63. The last settlement was made with an uniform rate of assessment of 3 Rupees per koolbah, and although the results of that settlement have demonstrated that this cannot be considered an exorbitant rate, it evidently did not give satisfaction to the people. It is true that there is not, in Cachar, much land that cannot bear an assessment of 3 Rupees per koolbah; but it is very certain that there is a considerable quantity of land which can and ought to pay a higher assessment, and there are also some lands assessed at the last settlement at 3 Rupees per koolbah, which an experienced and discriminating Settlement Officer would have assessed at a lower rate. What is required to content the people is not so much a reduction as an equalization of rates; they wish the lands to be assessed according to their relative value and productiveness, and their request is, in my judgment, very reasonable. Lieutenant Stewart and I have given the question of rates the most attentive consideration, and have determined on adopting those noted on the margin, for the new settlement. At one time I was inclined to adopt the rates* proposed by Major Verner and approved by Mr. Mills, but, on further inquiry, it became apparent that in them was a cardinal error, inasmuch as they were formed on the assumption that "Dofuslee," or lands producing two crops, are more valuable and productive than "Ekfuslee" lands, producing only one crop.

	Rs.	As.	
1st	3	8	per koolbah.
2nd.	3	0	ditto.
3rd.	2	8	ditto.
4th.	2	0	ditto.
5th	1	8	ditto.
6th	1	0	ditto.

* See Para. 23 of Mr. Mills' Report.

64. In Cachar the lands, on which two crops are raised, are generally uneven, of inferior quality, and difficult to irrigate; in an average season both crops yield an aggregate out-turn of about eight maunds of rice per keear. The lands producing one crop are, without exception, the most fertile and best watered lands in the province; in average years their one crop yields about ten maunds of rice per keear.

65. Rice of the first quality is but rarely grown on the "Dofuslee" lands; almost all the best kinds of rice are raised on the "Ekfuslee" lands; the labor expended in the cultivation of a keear of "Dofuslee" land is almost double what is required for a keear of "Ekfuslee" cultivation. No one would take "Dofuslee" when "Ekfuslee" land is procurable at the same rate.

66. The scale of rates fixed by Lieutenant Stewart and myself, is light and liberal, and will, no doubt, give satisfaction to the people, provided it is judiciously applied by the Settlement Officer. It is not at all likely that there will be any loss of Revenue by the adoption of these rates.

67. I have directed the new settlement to be made for twenty years—a term which, with reference to the condition of the District and the wishes and expectations of the people, Lieutenant Stewart considers to be quite long enough. The province has prospered under a fifteen years' settlement, and I concur with the Superintendent in thinking that no advantage is likely to be gained by making the next settlement for a much longer period. If a Settlement Officer understands his business, a new settlement ought never to be a hardship to the people; their interests and those of the Government are identical, and it is only the ignorant and grasping Settlement Officer who kills the goose for the golden egg, who is a curse and torment to a District.

THE HOUSE TAX.

68. A yearly tax of one Rupee per house is levied from the Kookies, Nagas, Cacharies and other Hill tribes inhabiting this District. These Hill men are very migratory in their habits, and are constantly changing their places of abode and their lands; they seldom cultivate the same parcel of land for more than two or three seasons, and then move off to other jungle lands. For the payment of this house tax they are allowed to cultivate in any locality as much jungle unassessed land as they please. A triennial census of the houses of these Hill tribes is taken, according to which the tax is collected by persons called Commissioners, who are deputed by the Superintendent to these villages for this purpose, and are paid by a commission of 6 per cent on their collections. The houses of the Kookie Rajahs, of all widows, orphans, blind persons and paupers, have always been exempted from this taxation. 3,340 houses* were taxed in the year 1857-58, and 212 houses were exempted from taxation. This tax is collected in a lump during the cold season; many of these villages are unapproachable by the inhabitants of the plains at any other season of the year, owing to their extreme insalubrity.

* Kookie Houses	.....	1,601
Naga „	.....	1,417
Cacharee „	.....	534
Total „	.....	3,552
Untaxed „	.....	212
Total Taxed „	.....	3,340

69. This tax has been gradually increasing for the last five years,* and Lieutenant Stewart informs me that there is not much evasion of it by three or four families residing in one house, as is the case among the Meekirs of North Cachar. When the Kookies and Nagas marry, they usually leave the paternal roof and reside in separate houses of their own; but the Superintendent states that the "clubbing "system" is sometimes resorted to in the Hill villages nearest the plains. Immediately the Hill tribes come into contact with the Bengalees, they become contaminated and soon lose their truthfulness and all their manly qualities.

* Years.	Collections.
1853-54	Rs. 2,347
1854-55	„ 2,413
1855-56	„ 2,740
1856-57	„ 3,088
1857-58	„ 3,340

70. Mr. James Davidson, the Superintendent of the Cachar Company, who has succeeded in settling a considerable number of Kookies and Nagas on that Company's Tea Plantation, has submitted to me an application for the exemption of these persons from this house tax. He represents that these Hill men have entirely abandoned their "joom" or jungle cultivation, and are now settled on the Company's grant as monthly and daily laborers. He submits that under these circumstances these Kookie and Naga laborers ought to be exempted from the payment of the house tax, their status being exactly the same as the Hindoo and Mussulman laborers of the plains, from whom that tax is never demanded. The Superintendent of Cachar has strongly objected to the exemption asked for by Mr. Davidson, and has represented to me that some of the Cachar Company's Kookies have cultivated some of the Government unassessed jungle lands since they have settled on the Tea Plantation. The Superintendent has urged that if these and other Hill men settled on assessed lands, be exempted from the house tax, the immediate loss of revenue to Government will be about Rupees 1,000 per annum, and the loss in this District and in North Cachar will eventually amount to about Rupees 10,000 per annum, for almost all the migratory tribes will settle themselves on assessed lands, in order to evade the house tax. Lieutenant Stewart is of opinion that there is also a grave political objection to exempting these Hill people from the payment of the customary house tax. He states that this tax is regarded by these

Hill men as a tribute in acknowledgment of the sovereignty of the British Government, and that its abolition might have the effect of causing them to be less tractable and submissive than they have been hitherto.

71. It seems to me to be a matter of great importance, in a thinly populated District like Cachar, where labor is so scarce, to offer every inducement to these wild tribes to abandon their migratory habits, to take root on the soil, and amalgamate themselves with the peasantry of the plains. To this end I venture to recommend that all persons belonging to these wandering tribes, who have settled and shall settle *bonâ fide* on assessed lands and have abandoned "joom" cultivation on Government land for more than one year, be exempted from this house tax, for as long as they continue to earn their livelihood by labor for wages or by fixed cultivation, after the manner of the inhabitants of the plains. Indeed I do not see how a house tax can, with justice, be demanded of them after they have abandoned that mode of life which necessitated the imposition of a tax which, in many respects, is objectionable. Any temporary loss of revenue, which may be sustained at first in exempting these settled Hill men from the payment of the house tax, will be more than compensated for, in a very short time, by the advantages derived from bringing them, as it were, within the pale of civilization and by the revenue of the lands which they will be obliged to take up and cultivate for their maintenance. When they become once fairly settled as agriculturists, they will soon be influenced by the desire, so strong and universal everywhere in Cachar, of having land of their own, and it will not take long to turn the indigent and improvident "joom" cultivator into the thrifty and thriving "Meerasdar."

72. Lieutenant Stewart's political objection seems to me to be but of little weight, for the more these wild races are brought into friendly contact with the European planters and people of the plains, the more likely they are to form a correct conception of the power and greatness of the British Government, and to appreciate that wise and conciliatory policy which has led them to exchange a state of semi-starvation in the jungles for the plenty, comforts and security of a more civilized life.

73. Mr. Davidson's application and Lieutenant Stewart's Report thereon will be found among the Appendices.*

* Appendix D.

SEALTEKH TRANSIT GHAUT.

74. The Sealtekh Transit Ghaut, which is situated on the Barak River, not far from the Sylhet boundary, is a considerable source of revenue. The Tabular Memorandum on the margin shows the Demands, Collections and Balances of that Ghaut for the last five years.

Years.	Demands.	Collections.	Balances.
1853-54	Rs. 4,250	Rs. 4,250	0
1854-55	„ 5,300	„ 5,300	0
1855-56	„ 7,675	„ 7,675	0
1856-57	„ 9,050	„ 9,050	0
1857-58	„ 6,400	„ 6,400	0

75. This Ghaut was formerly let in farm by public auction for triennial periods, but since 1854-55 only yearly leases have been granted, in order that there might be no impediment in case the Government should determine to abolish the Ghaut or to modify the existing Tariff, which is the same as it was in 1853.

76. There can be no doubt that this Transit Ghaut is an obstacle to trade, and the cause of some oppression to the people. Mr. Mills in 1853 reported to the Government that it appeared to him to be "very objectionable to levy toll duties at all." If the Government be able, in the present state of its finances, to relinquish this item of revenue, the abolition of these Transit duties will, undoubtedly, be a great boon and blessing to the people of Cachar, for however able and vigilant be the Magistrate, the farmer will always contrive to increase his gains by oppression and extortion. Mr. Mills recommended that in lieu of a Transit duty Ghaut at Sealtekh, a system of farms for cutting timber, similar to that which is in force in Assam, should be established, and that the forest tracts should be defined and let on lease to farmers, who should be permitted to make their own arrangements for realizing their dues and for cutting and carrying away timber and other produce of the jungles.

77. The project of leasing out forest tracts to farmers, on the Assam principle, has received the fullest consideration from the Superintendent and myself, and we are of opinion that it is not feasible in the present state of the District. The only forests that could be farmed are those intersected by streams, which communicate with the large rivers, and the only effectual means which the farmers would possess of obtaining payment from the traders in timber and jungle produce, would be by planking Ghauts on the banks of the streams to collect their dues, when the timber and other articles are floated down for exportation. Probably not one-half of the revenue now realized at Sealtekh Ghaut would be obtainable from the forest farmers, and the number of Transit Ghauts would be multiplied fifty fold. There is now some check upon the Sealtekh farmer; there would be none at all over the proceedings of these Forest lessees, who would have a Ghaut at the mouth of every navigable nullah. I am of opinion that the Assam system of leasing forest tracts will not answer in Cachar. The Sealtekh Ghaut, with all its drawbacks and inconveniences, is, I think, very preferable to a system which not only would yield much less revenue, but would be infinitely more oppressive to the people. If the public exigencies admit of the abolition of the Sealtekh Ghaut, it should be abolished; but the substitution of forest farms for it is much to be deprecated, and would be a remedy much worse than the disease.

78. In 1853 Major Verner recommended that the Hill cotton and the thatching grass should be exempted from the Transit Tax at Sealtekh Ghaut, and Mr. Mills observed, "that it is impolitic in the extreme to subject the exportation of cotton and "grass to the payment of export duties." The Hill cotton is grown by the Hill men located in Cachar, who pay a house tax; a large quantity of the thatching grass exported to Sylhet, is the produce of assessed lands. I certainly think that both these articles ought to be exempted at once from taxation at Sealtekh Ghaut. The Superintendent has informed me that the exemption of those two articles is likely to cause a decrease of about one-fourth of the revenue of the Ghaut; but probably one-third, or perhaps one-half, will be nearer the mark. The deficit caused by the exemption of these two articles from taxation, might, in all probability, be made up by a revision of the very low rates at present charged on some of the jungle products grown on unassessed lands. For instance, under the present tariff, timbers worth Rupees 100 or 120 each, pay a tax varying from seven Annas to one Rupee per timber, and there are other articles charged in a similar proportion. The present Superintendent has sent me a revised tariff* prepared by Major Verner some time ago. Lieutenant Stewart represents that if this tariff

* Appendix E.

be substituted for the present one, there is not likely to be much diminution in the receipts at Sealtekh Ghāut if the cotton and grass are allowed to pass duty free. I see no objection to the proposed tariff, which has been very carefully prepared by an Officer who knew the District very well. By making cotton duty free much oppression would be stopped, for then the Sealtekh farmer would no longer have it in his power to stop and search boats, cotton being the only taxable article exported on boats. The best thing to be done is the abolition of the Ghaut altogether, and to allow all articles to be exported duty free; but if that be deemed impracticable, the next best thing is to exempt the Hill cotton and thatching grass from taxation. As a rather large portion of the forest lands of the District has been taken up for the cultivation of Tea, there is likely, ere long, to be a considerable decrease in the export of jungle produce, which will affect the revenue of Sealtekh Ghaut.

FISHERIES.

79. The Fisheries of Cachar are not of great value; they consist of small Fisheries in jheels and nullahs which are scattered about the District in several places. They are let on lease at the sudder station by public auction, sometimes for one year, and sometimes for a term of years, as may be considered most expedient.

Years.	Collections.		
	Rs.	As.	P.
1853-54	895	4	0
1854-55	647	8	0
1855-56	834	8	0
1856-57	834	8	0
1857-58	834	8	0

80. The aggregate jumma realized on account of these Fisheries for each of the last five years is shown on the margin.

SALT WELLS.

Years.	Collections.		
	Rs.	As.	P
1853-54	992	0	0
1854-55	995	0	0
1855-56	995	0	0
1856-57	873	0	0
1857-58	802	5	5

81. The salt wells are ordinarily leased to the highest bidder at public auction for a term of three years. The amount of revenue obtained from this source, during the last five years, is as per margin.

82. The salt manufactured from the brine of these wells, is of very inferior quality to the Bengal Pungah salt, and is consumed chiefly by the poorer classes residing in the neighbourhood of the wells. For some years these wells have been getting very much out of repair, and the revenue derived from them has been gradually decreasing. A further decrease is to be expected, for the farmers, having only short leases, will not go to the expense of opening and clearing out the wells, and the Government cannot be expected to incur any outlay for this purpose, inasmuch as the Bengal salt yields a much larger profit than the salt obtained from these wells. The sale of the Bengal salt appears to be steadily increasing in this District. As much of the forest land in the vicinity of these wells has been lately taken by the Tea Planters, the price of firewood

has risen considerably in that neighbourhood, and this will have the effect of lowering the value of these salt wells, for the manufacture of salt there is becoming daily more difficult and expensive from the scarcity of fuel.

THE ABKARREE MEHAL.

83. Among the Appendices* will be found a Statement of the Demands and Collections of the Abkarree Mehal for the last five years. The net revenue realized during each year of this period, is as per margin. The decrease of revenue in 1856-57 has been caused by a decrease in the sale of opium during that year. I regret to have to state that the degrading vice of opium-eating seems to be increasing steadily and largely every year in Cachar; the decrease of sale, therefore, in 1856-57 was the more remarkable and attracted the attention of the Commissioner of the Dacca Division. An inquiry was made by his orders, and the decrease of sale was found to have been occasioned by the following circumstance. The decrease was confined entirely to the Western portion of the District; it appeared that the opium Pottahdars of the Bhanga Division, in the Sylhet District, which adjoins the Sealtekh Division in Cachar, took more opium from the Collector of Sylhet than they could dispose of within their own limits, and in consequence they reduced the retail price of the drug from Rupees 13 to Rupees 12 8 Annas per seer; the retail price in the adjoining Cachar Division was Rupees 13 and Rupees 13 4 Annas per seer. This induced the Cachar people in the neighbourhood of Sealtekh to go to Bhanga to purchase their opium at the lower price. This circumstance caused the decrease in the Cachar opium sales during the year 1856-57. For the year 1857-58 the Superintendent gave the opium pottahs of his District to the same parties who held the Sylhet licenses, and by this arrangement the illicit trafficking has been stopped, and there has been a considerable increase* in the sale of the drug.

Appendix F.

Years.	Net Revenue realized.		
	Rs.	As.	P.
1853-54 ...	5,848	10	9
1854-55 ..	6,955	4	6
1855-56 ..	8,758	0	0
1856-57 ...	8,275	5	0
1857-58 ..	9,632	9	6

Years.	Net Opium Revenue.		
	Rs.	As.	P.
1856-57	6,552	0	0
1857-58	8,001	8	0
Increase of 1857-58 .	1,449	8	0

84. After opium, ganjah is the excisable article most used in Cachar. The revenue obtained from ganjah during the year 1857-58 amounted to Rupees 1,368-12. There is not much demand in this District for country spirits or "muddut."

85. The Abkarree Revenue, which is collected by the Officers of the Sudder Establishment, is almost always realized during the year, and for the last five years, there has been no irrecoverable balance, which speaks well for the management of the Superintendent.

86. The accompanying Abstract Statement shows that the revenue business during the last four years has not been very heavy; but there is always a considerable number of settlement cases on hand, some of which are intricate and require much attention. Cultivation is rapidly extending, and fresh lands are being taken up, in large and small quantities, at all seasons of the year.

ABSTRACT RETURN of Revenue Business in the Office of the Superintendent of Cachar during the Years 1854-55, 1855-56, 1856-57 *and* 1857-58.

Years.	Remaining from previous year.	Instituted during the year.	Total.	Disposed of.			Remaining at the end of the year.	Letters.				Periodical Returns.				Witnesses examined during the year.
				Decided on trial.	Settled and struck off.	Total.		Remaining from previous year.	Received.	Written and Answered.	Remaining.	Remaining from previous year.	Due during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending.	
				Regular Cases and Settlement.												
1854-55	24	742	766	513	211	724	42	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	240
1855-56	42	555	597	302	176	478	119	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
1856-57	119	665	784	306	236	542	242	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	138
1857-58	242	812	1,054	748	180	928	126	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	147
Total ..	427	2,774	3,201	1,869	803	2,672	529	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	634
				Miscellaneous Cases, Petitions, Reports, &c.												
1854-55	4	9,433	9,437	9,417	13	9,430	7	..	240	284	..	..	303	303	..	...
1855-56	7	8,237	8,244	8,220	22	8,242	2	..	307	274	...	...	328	328	..	..
1856-57	2	7,675	7,677	7,665	9	7,674	3	..	411	346	..	..	330	330	..	..
1857-58	3	9,852	9,855	9,792	23	9,815	40	..	433	416	..	.	330	330	..	..
Total ..	16	35,197	35,213	35,094	67	35,161	52	..	1,391	1,320	..	..	1,291	1,291	...	...

The work of the Revenue Department is creditably brought up. At the close of the official year 1857-58 only the cases entered on the marginal Memorandum were pending; not one of these cases had been six months on the file, and many of them were of very recent institution and not ready for decision.

Security Cases.	Miscellaneous Cases.	Settlements.
38	40	88

87. Tabular Statements of the Receipts and Disbursements of the District for the last five years* are annexed.

*1853-54 to 1857-58.

STATEMENT showing the Receipts of Zillah Cachar from the beginning of 1853-54 *to the end of* 1857-58.

1. Items.	2. 1853-54.			3. 1854-55.			4. 1855-56.			5. 1856-57.			6. 1857-58.			7. Remarks.
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
Land Revenue ..	66,237	15	3	67,670	5	9	69,268	12	1	74,524	6	0	81,484	8	7	
Sealtekh Transit Duties	4,250	0	0	5,300	0	0	7,675	0	0	9,050	0	0	6,400	0	0	
Fisheries	895	4	0	647	8	0	834	8	0	834	8	0	834	8	0	
House Tax	2,347	0	0	2,413	0	0	2,740	0	0	3,088	0	0	3,340	0	0	
Abkarry Revenue & Contingencies	9,526	13	0	11,508	0	0	14,850	6	3	13,819	5	0	16,403	1	6	
Salt Wells ...	992	0	0	995	0	0	995	0	0	873	0	0	802	5	5	
Ferries	296	4	0	255	4	0	346	8	0	294	8	0	291	0	0	
Post Office	486	5	0	732	14	6	864	0	0	830	2	0	1,039	2	6	
Fines	3,406	0	10½	971	11	7	960	15	8	1,311	11	2	1,777	11	9	
Revenue Record Fund	90	5	5	111	1	7	93	10	2	123	2	3	159	4	0	
Total	88,527	15	6½	90,604	13	5	98,628	12	2	1,04,748	10	5	1,12,531	9	9	

STATEMENT showing the Civil Disbursements of Zillah Cachar from the beginning of 1853-54 *to the end of* 1857-58.

1. Items.	2. 1853-54.			3. 1854-55.			4. 1855-56.			5. 1856-57.			6. 1857-58.			7. Remarks.
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
Dewanny Establishment	13,006	2	8	11,809	8	0	11,809	8	0	10,492	2	0	10,203	4	5	* The contingencies in 1857-58 include the rewards and percentage paid for mutineers and the recovery of treasure, also the sum sanctioned for the construction of a road between Silchar and Assaloo and other unusual expenses.
Foujdarry Ditto...	7,128	0	0	7,170	0	6	7,692	8	2	9,015	0	3	10,438	3	9	
Revenue Ditto..	9,642	8	0	9,649	8	0	9,649	8	0	10,049	8	0	6,627	1	0	
Abkarry Ditto...	895	10	8	900	0	0	900	0	0	891	5	4	7,670	8	0	
Post Office Ditto...	249	2	7	284	10	4	255	14	1	220	6	11	207	4	5	
Pensions	3,667	11	11	3,667	11	11	3,353	7	4	3,672	15	6	3,673	0	6	
Contingencies .	9,388	4	9½	1,676	6	11	3,207	12	2	4,118	9	2	14,813	4	*8	
Munneepore Dâk Expenses ..	902	14	0	902	14	0	902	14	0	902	14	0	827	10	2	
Total.. ..	44,880	6	7½	36,060	11	8	37,771	7	9	40,262	13	2	54,460	4	11	

Years.	Net Revenue.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
1853-54	43,647	8	11
1854-55	54,544	1	9
1855-56	60,857	4	5
1856-57	64,485	13	3
1857-58	58,071	4	10

All expenditure on account of the Civil administration of the District is shown in the disbursement statement, but Military charges are not included. The net revenue obtained from this District for each year of this period, after the payment of all Civil charges, is as per margin.

PUBLIC FERRIES.

88. During the year 1854-55 and the two following years, there were six public ferries; in the year 1857-58 there were seven ferries. The collections realized from these ferries during the last four years are given on the margin. During the years 1856-57 and 1857-58 an aggregate sum of Rupees 1,844-15-9 was expended from the surplus ferry funds in the construction and repair of roads, and on the 30th of April 1858, the unappropriated balance at the credit of the ferry fund amounted to Rupees 1,651-15-2. The tolls at the several ferries are the same as they were in 1853, and appear to be unobjectionable; but I understand that there has been no improvement in the ferry boats. The Superintendent should supply safe and suitable boats for every ferry from the surplus ferry funds, and whatever balance may remain after that has been done, might, with advantage, be expended in repairing the most useful roads in the vicinity of the sudder station.

Years.	Collections.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
1854-55	258	0	0
1855-56	296	0	0
1856-57	294	8	0
1857-58	317	0	0

POLITICAL RELATIONS.

89. In the year 1849, the management of the political relations of the Government with the independent wild tribes located near the Southern, Eastern and South Eastern boundaries of the District, was entrusted to Colonel Lister, the Political Agent at Cherra Poonjee. Mr. Mills, in his Report,* recommended that these duties should be transferred from the Political Agent at Cherra Poonjee to the Superintendent of Cachar. He considered, and no doubt with good reason, that the latter Officer being on the spot,

* Dated 2nd September 1853, Para. 86.

must be much better informed in regard to the designs and movements of these semi-civilized Hill tribes, than a functionary residing at a distance of more than 100 miles from their haunts. The Cherra Poonjee Political Agency was abolished by the orders of Government, No. 526, dated 11th March 1854, and since then there has been no Officer on this frontier who has been formally empowered to transact political business with the neighbouring independent Hill tribes. These duties have, in practice, devolved upon the Superintendent, who, when matters of moment arise, corresponds with the Bengal Government regarding them, but he is vested with no political authority, and when persons belonging to the Hill tribes which inhabit the jungles of our frontier or its vicinity, repair to him for redress, he is unable to take cognizance of their complaints, or to settle their affairs, except as a Magistrate, through the medium of his Court, which is under the trammels of Regulation Law. This is not the sort of justice that satisfies these wild and ignorant people; they regard with suspicion and dislike the forms, delays, and to them mysterious intricacies, of our Courts of Justice It is, I think, very necessary, for the preservation of peace and good order in Cachar, that the Superintendent should be vested with the powers of a Political Agent to enable him to negotiate with and control the wild tribes that are scattered along his frontier, and to decide in the Political Department, without reference to Regulation Law, forms or practice, all disputes and other matters connected with these rude mountaineers, that may be submitted to him. These decisions should be made in the most summary manner, after personal enquiry, by the Superintendent himself, in the presence of both parties. No interference on the part of the Bengalee Police or Ministerial Officers should, on any account, be permitted, and whatever record it may be necessary to have of such proceedings, should be kept in the English language.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS

90 The water communications of this District are very good. The river Barak, which meanders through the Province from East to West, is navigable at all seasons of the year by light craft, and in the rains, for a considerable distance, by boats of large tonnage. During the latter season all the small rivers, tributary streams, and nullahs are navigable, and there is facility of communication with almost all parts of the District. The crying want of Cachar is a few good roads; in fact there is not a good road in the District. The fine Military road from Sylhet *vid* Silchar, towards Munneepore, which was constructed by Government at a vast expense some years ago, may be said to be entirely destroyed Lieutenant Stewart has informed me that "it can hardly be traced "beyond a distance of twelve miles from Silchar Westward and two miles Eastward," and even these fourteen miles of road are in such a very dilapidated condition as to be, "for the "most part, barely traversable." There is an excellent road from Banskandy in Cachar across the frontier mountains to the Munneepore valley, which is kept in good order by the Political Agent at Munneepore, but its usefulness is very limited, in consequence of that part of the road which runs through the Cachar District being impassable.

91. It is of the greatest importance, in a Military as well as a Commercial point of view, that the road from Sylhet towards Munneepore should be repaired. or rather re-constructed, immediately the funds are available for this purpose. No money should be frittered away on roads or works of minor importance in Cachar, till this great Highway has been re-opened If this road be made and kept in order for a few years, it is supposed that the increased value of land in its vicinity will soon suffice to cover the

entire cost of its re-construction. It would be invaluable for Military purposes, in the event of any misunderstanding with the Burmese Government, or of any disturbances in the Munneepore territory ; it would be the channel through which the trade of Munneepore and of the Northern Provinces of the Burmese Empire would flow into Eastern Bengal.

92. A road to connect Silchar with Assaloo, the sudder station of North Cachar, has been sanctioned by Government, and I understand that it is intended to continue this road as far as Nowgong in Assam. Thirty-eight miles of it are in the Cachar District, and that portion which lies between Silchar and the foot of the Hills, has, I believe, been already completed.

93. The Superintendent of Cachar has been making very laudable exertions to open a road from Silchar through the Chuttla Howhar. The Cachar, Silchar and Equitable Tea Companies have come forward with much public spirit and liberality, and contributed a sum of Rupees 3,301-10 towards this undertaking. The new road will be about five miles in length; the Superintendent undertook to construct, by convict labor, the first mile out of the station on condition that these Companies would furnish the funds to complete the remaining portion of the road as far as the Goongoor Hills. The road, which will be a "cutcha" one, will be twelve feet broad at the top, and in some places it must be embanked to a considerable height; the earth-work will cost about Rupees 300 per mile, and there are two considerable rivers and several smaller streams and nullahs to be bridged; the whole work is expected to cost about the sum subscribed, but in the event of there being any surplus funds, they are to be employed in carrying on the road towards Jalinga, which is about five or six miles to the South of Goongoor.

94. The advantages expected from this road are thus described by Lieutenant Stewart :—"The advantages of this road are very great and numerous. In the first place, "it opens out a large Pergunnah, which has, until within the last five years, been a "sealed letter to the people of Cachar, and it leads directly to broad plains, which formed "the cultivation of a race which has now passed away, and are already levelled for the "present one. It is of the greatest benefit to the Tea planters, as it facilitates commu- "nications and cheapens carriage, and in a Military point of view is excellently adapted "for operations, either defensive or offensive, against the Looshais."

95. If funds can be raised, the Superintendent proposes to carry on this new road for six or seven miles beyond Jalinga in a Southerly direction "through the anciently "cultivated plains of Dowarbund," and if that can be effected, a cross road will be required to connect the new road with Hyleakandy on the one side, and Bundraj on the other. Lieutenant Stewart, however, informs me that local funds and subscriptions will not suffice to carry out this project unless pecuniary aid to the extent of about Rupees 10,000 can be obtained from the Government. No doubt these roads will be highly beneficial to the development of the resources of that part of the province, but I have intimated to the Superintendent that it is not likely that the Government will feel disposed, at the present juncture, to make so large an outlay on a scheme of this kind.

96. Lieutenant Stewart has favored me with a project for re-opening the old and filled up channels of the Dullesur River. It seems to be deserving of attention, and will be found among the Appendices.* If a portion of the large volume of water which at present flows down the new channel could

* Appendix G.

be diverted, at a moderate cost, into the old channel of the river, no doubt the rather extensive tract of Country lying between the two channels would be much benefited, for it would be protected against those sudden inundations and violent irruptions of the river, which occasionally have done so much damage to property in that direction, and rendered a large area of once fruitful land perfectly unfit for cultivation.

DRAINAGE CANALS.

97. The Officiating Superintendent has brought to notice again the expediency of cutting drainage canals from the River Barak with the view of filling up the jheels and swamps, which are near the banks of both sides of the river, and which are now not only entirely unproductive, but are fertile sources of malaria, wherever they are. The process of letting in the water of the river into the jheels with the view of filling them up by the alluvial deposit brought by the river water, has been fully explained by the former Superintendent in Mr. Mills' Report.* I find that this proposition about cutting these canals has now been made by three Superintendents. I have no doubt that by this means, judiciously applied, large tracts of morassy and swampy land may be reclaimed for a very moderate outlay, and I concur with Mr. Mills in thinking that the experiment ought to be made. The present Superintendent is quite competent to give this project a fair trial. Of course, before any outlay for this purpose is sanctioned, he should furnish such details and estimates to the superior authorities as may enable them to form a judgment in regard to the feasibility and expediency of each undertaking. The experiment ought to be tried on a small scale at first, and if successful, more extensive operations can be undertaken afterwards. The people of the Country are in the habit of cutting these drainage canals on a small scale with considerable success, and I am not aware of any reason why canal cutting on a larger scale should not be attended with the like advantageous results. The Superintendent speaks with much confidence on this subject, and from inquiries made in other quarters, I incline to think his views are sound and judicious.

* See Para. 42.

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS.

98. For many years there has been no school or educational establishment of any kind in Cachar. An English and Bengalee School was established at Silchar several years ago by the Superintendent, but it failed for want of the requisite funds. In May 1857 the present Superintendent succeeded in again establishing a School at his sudder station. Donations amounting to Rupees 800 have been made to the school by the European and Native inhabitants of the District, and its monthly income from subscriptions and schooling fees amounted, by the last accounts, to Rupees 88.* About 100 pupils attend the school, and the attendance of most of them is, I understand, tolerably regular. A large mat and thatched bungalow has been erected for a school-house, which will answer the purpose for the present. Instruction is given in English and Bengalee reading and writing and grammar, in geography and arithmetic; the course of instruction will be extended as soon as

* Subscription of European Inhabitants ..	Rupees	72
Ditto Native Inhabitants ..	„	7
Schooling Fees	„	9
	Rupees	88

For English and Bengalee or English only.
Pupils under twelve years of age, 4 As. per mensem.
Pupils above twelve years of age, 8 As. per mensem.

For Bengalee only.
Pupils under twelve years of age, 1 A. per mensem.
Pupils above twelve years of age, 2 As. per mensem.

teachers with superior attainments are available. The scale of fees demanded from the pupils of the Silchar School is given on the margin; in my opinion the charges are too high in the English and Bengalee Department for such a place as Silchar, where almost every Government Native Official is under-paid, and where every one is very poor. The Silchar people have been declaring for years their inability to pay schooling fees; the price of all kinds of provisions has risen exceedingly of late in Cachar, and the inhabitants are certainly now much less able to pay schooling fees than they were in 1853. The energy and influence of the Superintendent and the novelty of the undertaking, may induce the people to pay these fees for a time, but if they be not reduced, I doubt whether the school will prosper, for there are very few persons in Cachar who can afford to pay 4 and 8 Annas a month for the education of each of their children.

99. During the present year Lieutenant Stewart has established a small English and Bengalee branch school at each of the two Mofussil villages named on the margin. Both of these schools appear to have made a successful beginning. The Hyleakandy School is said to be attended by thirty-four pupils. Another branch school will be opened in a few days, I believe, in the village of Kattigurrah. The native inhabitants of Hyleakandy and Kattigurrah have paid half the expenses of building their respective school-houses.

Hyleakandy.
Goongoor.

100. The Superintendent has represented to me that some assistance from Government is urgently required to enable him to carry on these Cachar Schools with success; all of them, particularly the one at Silchar, are very useful institutions; the people, heretofore so indifferent to the advantages of a good education, seem now desirous of educating their children; it will be a great misfortune to the District if the Silchar School be allowed to fail for want of a little timely aid and encouragement. Mr. Mills was of opinion that "looking to the population of the District and the revenue yielded, the "people have a claim to the establishment of a small vernacular school."

101. I venture, with deference, to submit that the Silchar School is a proper object for the patronage of the Government. If the State would grant to this school a monthly allowance equal to the amount of its private monthly subscriptions, its well-being and permanency would, in all probability, be secured, and a real and lasting benefit would be conferred on the poor and ignorant people of Cachar, who are, in fact, Government Ryots. Lieutenant Stewart informed me, some time ago, that he intended to apply to the Director of Public Instruction for a grant-in-aid of these schools; but the result of his application has not been communicated to me.

CATTLE TRESPASS.

102. The Cachar Tea Planters, and the Agricultural Community in general, complain much of the damage done to their plantations and crops by cattle trespass. There is, at present, in Cachar, no real protection against cattle trespass, and in consequence parties whose crops, &c., are damaged not unfrequently take the law into their own hands, and the result is disputes, affrays, and sometimes the cruel mutilation of the trespassing animals. The orders of Government, No. 2821, dated the 20th of May 1857,

direct, that Act III. of 1857 shall not be extended to Cachar, apparently because it is a Non-Regulation Province. I am aware of no reason whatever why the provisions of this Act should not be extended to this District; on the contrary, I am satisfied that this excellent law will be found to be extremely useful and well-adapted to this Agricultural Province, where a large portion of the land has been so recently reclaimed, and where the crops are so much exposed to this sort of damage. I have no doubt that the Act would work fully as well here as it has done elsewhere, and that it will be very acceptable to the people. I therefore respectfully recommend that it be extended forthwith to this Province.

103. After the Official promulgation of Act III. of 1857, and before the orders of Government above adverted to had reached the Superintendent, he had given effect to the law in his District and had established cattle pounds at each of his three Police Thannahs. The law gave much satisfaction apparently to all classes during the few weeks it was in operation in Cachar, and the cattle pounds paid their own expenses. It has been intimated to me that the Tea Planters are about to memorialize the Government to extend the provisions of Act III. of 1857 to Cachar, and the sooner this is done the better.

104. A pound should be established at each of the three Police Thannahs,* and the Moonsiffs of Silchar and Scaltekh should be specially invested with the power of receiving and trying complaints under Section 14 of Act III. of 1857.

* Sudder Thannah.
Hyleakandy Thannah.
Kattigurrah Thannah.

TRADE.

105. A Table of the Exports and Imports of the Cachar District for the last five years will be found among the Appendices,* and a Memorandum of the total value of the Exports and Imports of each year is given on the margin.

* Appendices H. and I.

Years.	Total value of Exports.			Total value of Imports.		
	Rs.	As.		Rs.	As.	P.
1853-54	2,97,887	8	0	1,76,104	0	0
1854-55 ..	3,57,490	10	0	2,01,219	3	0
1855-56	4,05,866	10	0	2,28,595	11	0
1856-57	5,28,620	12	0	2,45,257	14	0
1857-58	3,94,925	0	0	2,83,887	6	0

106. These returns have been prepared from information obtained from the principal traders of Silchar, and the Superintendent states that although they cannot be said to be strictly correct, "yet the error cannot be more than 15 per cent one way or the "other."

107. The inhabitants of Cachar are not a commercial or manufacturing race; the merchants are chiefly foreigners; but the steady and gradual increase of Exports and Imports demonstrates that the District is in a flourishing and improving condition. It will be observed that only during the year 1857-58 there has been a decrease in the Exports, and this has been occasioned, for the most part, by the general failure of the rice crops of the District during that year. This extensive failure of the rice crops, though it affected, in some degree, some of the other exports besides paddy and rice, appears to have had little or no effect upon the imports, which during that year of scarcity not only received no check, but increased according to the ordinary proportion of former years. Almost the whole of the trade of Cachar is carried on by water. I have already stated there are no roads, and this, of course, is a great obstacle to the expansion of the trade of the Province.

ESTABLISHMENT.

108. The Officiating Superintendent has made an urgent representation to me regarding the inadequacy of the pay of certain Native Officers of his Establishment and the necessity of increasing the strength of his Office Establishment, which at present is quite unable to perform with efficiency the heavy additional duties which for the last four years have devolved upon it. This is a complaint of very long standing, and was brought strongly to the notice of Mr. Mills when he visited Cachar in 1853. This matter was fully inquired into and considered by that gentleman, who has recorded his opinion thereon in the following terms* — "I think the Superintendent has shown good and sufficient grounds for increasing the salaries of his Establishment generally. The Officers certainly are under-paid, and it is but fair towards his subordinates, who have worked well and spared no exertion in co-operation with their superior towards bringing about the gratifying results which the administration of this Country under our rule exhibits, that they should be placed more on a par as regards allowances with the Amlah of other Districts."

* Report, dated 2nd September 1853, Para. 76.

109. Nothing as yet has been done to redress the grievances of the over-worked and under-paid Native Officers of the Cachar Superintendent's Office. If it be admitted that they were inadequately paid in 1853, the evil complained of has become greatly aggravated since then, because the prices of almost all the commonest necessaries of life in Cachar are now about double what they were in 1853. The salaries of several of the Officers are not indeed sufficient in these times to procure for them common food and decent raiment.

110. The Superintendent has submitted a Statement* showing the increase which, in his opinion, ought to be made to the salaries of certain under-paid Officers of his Establishment. The aggregate monthly increase† which he wishes to be granted amounts to Rupees 243. He recommends the monthly salary of the present head writer to be raised from Rupees 50 to 60. In a Statement‡ which he has submitted for an increase to his Establishment, he has recommended the appointment of a head English clerk on a salary of Rupees 80 a month. Now if this head clerk be sanctioned, there will be no necessity, in my opinion, to increase the salary of the present English writer; Rupees 50 a month will be sufficient for him, when a head clerk, who will have the management and responsibility of the English office in all departments, is placed over him.

* Appendix K.

† Present Salary.	Proposed Salary.	Increase.
Rs. 523	Rs. 766	Rs. 243

‡ Appendix L.

111. With this abatement,* I consider that the increased allowances given in Appendix K. are in every respect absolutely necessary for the efficiency of the public service, and therefore I venture to recommend them to the favorable consideration of the Government.

* Monthly increase of pay recommended by Superintendent .. .. Rs. 243
Deduct increase to head writer .. .. „ 10
Increase thought necessary .. .. .. Rs. 233

112. Appendix L. shows the increase of Establishment which, the Superintendent reports, is indispensably necessary to enable him to carry on the duties of his District with efficiency. I have given this matter the most careful consideration, and have attentively observed the working of the Superintendent's office during the last

eighteen months. I am satisfied that the duties cannot be properly carried on without the increase of Establishment now applied for. I know that a properly qualified head English clerk is quite indispensable to enable the Superintendent to send out, in a creditable manner, the numerous English statements and returns which are required from all departments of his office; many of these returns are now sent out very imperfectly prepared; but it is useless to find fault or expect amendment till his English office has been placed on a proper footing: it is now very much over-worked and is quite incapable of doing better than it does.

113. The aggregate increase of monthly expense on account of this increase of Establishment will amount to Rupees 228. The pay of the Police Mohurir and Jemadar of the new Police Station, which it is proposed to establish at Luckipore, has been fixed according to the new scale of allowances sanctioned by the recent orders* of the Government. The total increase of expenditure, both on account of increase of pay and of Establishment, will amount to Rupees 461 per mensem.† From this is to be deducted a monthly sum of Rupees 48, which will be available from the abolition of the scout establishment, which is no longer required, and which I have already recommended‡ for reduction. The net increase of expense, therefore, will amount to Rupees 413 per mensem, which, I respectfully and earnestly solicit, may be sanctioned, because I am thoroughly satisfied that it is absolutely and indispensably necessary to the efficient management of this fine and thriving Province. It is an expenditure which eventually will be more than repaid by the fruits of a better conducted administration of public affairs. Since the year 1853-54 the land revenue§ of the District has largely increased, and with proper management there is every prospect of its increasing considerably every year for some time to come. It is impossible to administer with success the affairs of a large and improving Province like Cachar and to do justice to the interests of the Government and the Governed unless the District Officer be supplied with an efficient Establishment. It is a false and short-sighted economy to pay natives placed in offices of trust and power, in a manner so as to afford them almost an excuse for peculation and extortion, and to employ an Establishment physically incapable of performing the work that is thrown upon it.

* No. 2891, dated July 21st, 1858.

† Increase of pay .. .. Rs 233
Increase of Establishment .. .. .. „ 228

Total increase .. .. Rs. 461
Deduct cost of scout establishment .. „ 48

Net monthly increase .. .. Rs. 413

‡ Para. 27.

§ *Land Revenue.*

1853-54 .. Rs. 66,237 15 3
1857-58 .. „ 81,484 8 7

Increase .. Rs. 15,246 9 4

MAGISTERIAL POWERS TO MOONSIFFS.

114. The new system of trying all petty Foujdarry cases in the manner prescribed by the orders of Government, No. 3364, dated the 2nd of September 1858, came into operation in Cachar on the 13th Idem, and the Superintendent has represented to me that it has already increased, in a considerable degree, his work and that of his Assistant. To obviate this inconvenience, and to prevent the time of these Officers being too much taken up with these petty cases to the hindrance of other business, Lieutenant Stewart has proposed that the Sudder Moonsiff, Baboo Ram Govind Deb, should be vested with the powers of an Assistant Magistrate under Regulation XIII. of 1797 and Regulation IX. of 1807, so that he may be able to assist in disposing of these petty Foujdarry cases. No doubt the new system will entail a considerable quantity of addi-

tional labor on the Superintendent and his Assistant, and it will be necessary, I think, in order that these petty cases may be promptly decided, that some assistance should be given, and this can be done without inconvenience, by sanctioning the Superintendent's proposition. Baboo Ram Govind Deb is an intelligent and respectable Officer; his work in the Civil Court is light, and he has ample time to transact Foujdarry business; I would, therefore, with deference, recommend that he be vested with the powers of an Assistant Magistrate in Cachar.

115. It appeared to me that it might be advantageous to give to the Moonsiff of Sealtekh also similar judicial powers, and to authorize him to take up and decide petty Foujdarry cases under the provisions of Act X. of 1854; upon this subject I consulted the Superintendent; he seems, however, to be averse to the employment of Baboo Bydenauth Deb on Foujdarry business, and has made the following remarks upon the Official qualifications of that Moonsiff:—"Bydenauth Deb, though a well-"meaning, is an old man, and I think he has work enough in his hands as it is; the "result of appeals against his decisions in the Civil Court, you will perceive by the returns, "is not very favorable."

116. The business of the Sealtekh Moonsiff's Court is by no means heavy, and if the Moonsiff be at all in working condition, he ought to be able, without the least difficulty, to render assistance in the Foujdarry Department. If he be not competent to decide a few petty criminal cases, he certainly is not fit for the office of a Moonsiff, and if the present incumbent be too old and infirm for his office, he ought to give place to a younger and stronger man. It undoubtedly would be a great convenience to the people of the Western Pergunnahs of the Cachar District if they could have their petty Foujdarry cases decided by the Moonsiff at Kattigurrah instead of being obliged to incur the expense and inconvenience of a journey of several miles to the sudder station. The convenience of the Moonsiff, I think, ought to give way to that of the public.

117. During the short period the new rule for the decision of petty Foujdarry cases has been in force in Cachar, it has been eminently successful, and has given great satisfaction to all classes of the people, except, perhaps, to the Amlah and Mookhtears, whose influence and gains have been considerably diminished by it.

EXTENSION OF THE ASSAM CIVIL AND CRIMINAL RULES TO CACHAR.

118. Mr. Mills recommended that the Assam system of criminal trials should be extended to Cachar, and has pointed out the very great inconvenience and hardships to which Cachar prosecutors and witnesses are subjected in being obliged to attend upon the Sylhet Court of Sessions, when cases are committed for trial there. Crime in Cachar is increasing with the population, and commitments have become, and are likely to become, more numerous. The evils of sending these poor and ignorant people to the Sessions Court at Sylhet are daily becoming more apparent and harassing. The inhabitants of Cachar are a simple and obedient race; but if something be not done soon to mitigate this great and growing grievance, the consequence will be that they will contrive to conceal the most heinous crimes. Almost anything will be more tolerable to them than frequent and expensive pilgrimages to the Court of Sessions at Sylhet.

119. I would earnestly recommend the immediate introduction into Cachar of the rules for the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Assam; they are confessedly far from perfect, still, notwithstanding all their imperfections, they are in every respect far preferable to the intricate, dilatory and uncertain system of regulation law, which is now being administered in Cachar by a Military and Medical Officer, neither of whom has had any judicial training. If after trial it be found, that any alteration in these Rules is necessary to adapt them to Cachar, the needful can be done at once by an order of the Government. All Civil and Criminal appeals under the Assam Rules should be made to the Civil and Sessions Judge of Sylhet, and all Police and Revenue appeals to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division. In cases referred to the Sessions Judge under the 5th Clause of the 2nd Section of the Assam Criminal Rules, he should have the power to order the Superintendent to commit, for regular trial, all such cases as ought, in his opinion, to be tried in that formal manner, and whenever he shall think fit to exercise this special power, he should be required to record in English the grounds on which he considers it necessary to order a regular trial.

120. It is, I think, very desirable that in all cases referred to the Sessions Judge under the Clause and Section of the Assam Rules above-mentioned, the prisoners, as well as the proceedings, should be forwarded to the Sessions Judge, for it is expedient and right that the Judge should see and hear the prisoners before he concurs in their condemnation. In capital cases this precaution is essentially necessary for the ends of justice, and without it there are likely to be erroneous convictions, which will be injurious to the reputation of our Criminal Courts.

121. If, however, there should be any objection, of which I am not aware, to the extension of the Assam Rules to Cachar, I would venture to recommend that the Superintendent be authorized, by an order of Government, to pass sentences, under the Regulations, not exceeding seven years, forwarding his proceedings, in all cases in which he passes a sentence beyond the competence of a Magistrate, for the confirmation and final orders of the Sessions Judge of Sylhet. The Principal and Senior Assistant Commissioners in the South West Frontier Agency have exercised these powers for many years, and the system has been found to work exceedingly well and to afford great relief to the people.

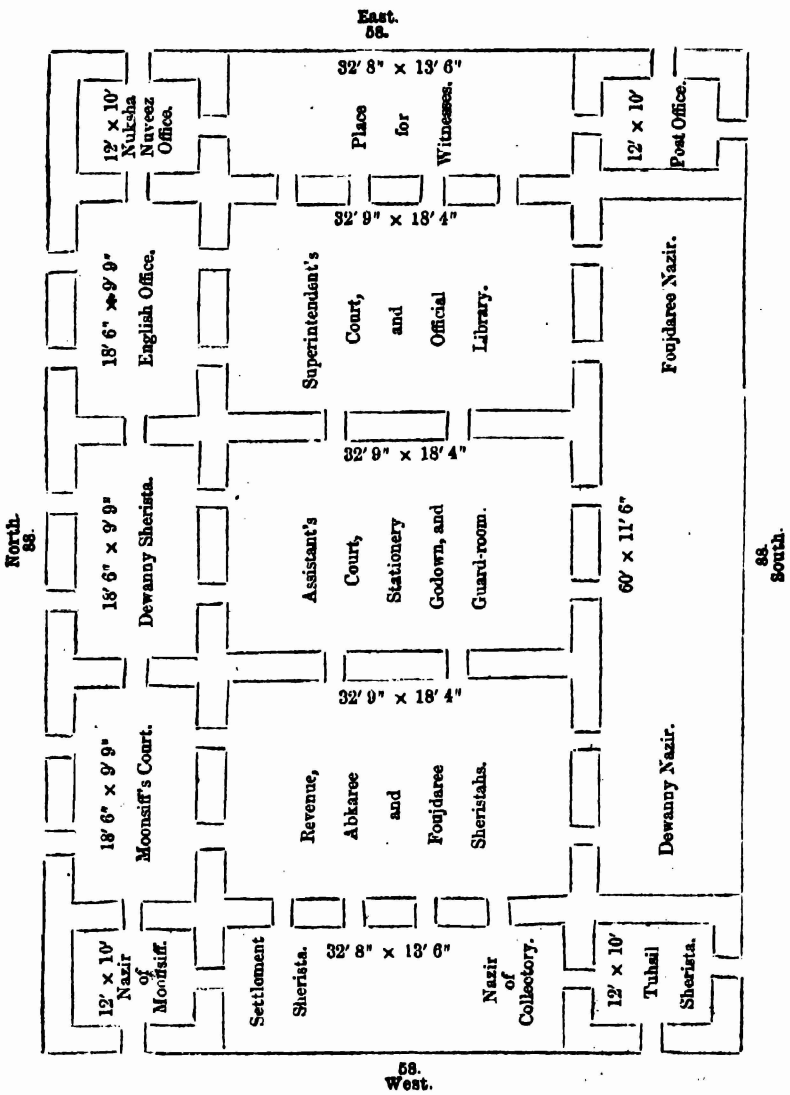
MEDICAL DUTIES OF THE CIVIL STATION.

122. The Medical duties of the Civil Station of Cachar, are performed by Mr. Assistant Surgeon S. M. Shircore, who is attached to the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion as a Second Assistant Surgeon. Dr. Shircore is also acting, at present, as Assistant to the Superintendent of Cachar. Some inconvenience has been occasionally experienced by the Medical Officer being attached to the Battalion instead of, as usual, to the Civil Station. He is liable to be summoned to the Head Quarters of the Battalion at Cherra Poonjee to sit on Courts of Inquiry and to perform other minor Military duties, and during his absence from Silchar on these duties, the station is left without a Medical Officer. There is, I believe, no other Native Local Corps in the Service to which two Assistant Surgeons are appointed, and the Sylhet Battalion does not require two Medical Officers. The Second Assistant Surgeon seems to have been attached to the Regiment

in the year 1841 merely as a temporary arrangement. The Medical Officer, I think, should be attached, as is usual, to the Civil Station, and not to the Battalion, and he should receive the usual allowance for the Medical charge of the Troops quartered at Silchar. This is the practice at all the out-stations in the Chota Nagpore Commissionership, where there are Troops, and a similar arrangement would, I have no doubt, be found very advantageous in Cachar.

CACHAR CUTCHERRY.

123. A new Cutcherry for the Superintendent of Cachar is very urgently required. I submit a rough plan of the present building which, having been constructed for a private dwelling-house, is much too small and not at all adapted for a Cutcherry. All the rooms are very much overcrowded, there is little or no ventilation, and the atmosphere at all times of the year, and particularly in the hot season, is quite stifling and exceedingly unwholesome. It will be observed that the Post Office, Tuhseel Sherista, the Nuksha Nuveez's and Moonsiff's Nazir's Offices are each placed in small corner bath-rooms of a few feet square, where there is scarcely space to move. The Moonsiff's Court, the Dewanny Sherista, and the English Office are in very small and inconvenient verandah rooms. The Assistant Superintendent's Court is also a Stationery Godown and a Military Guard Room. The Settlement Office and the Offices of the Dewanny, Revenue and Foujdarry Nazirs are all in open verandahs, and the evidence of the witnesses, in cases before the Superintendent,



is written in the Eastern verandah of the Superintendent's Court room, because there is no space for them inside the room. This state of affairs, which must be so destructive to health and comfort, and must impede, in no small degree, the transaction of public business, certainly requires an early remedy. The present Cutcherry, from its defective construction cannot, I think, be conveniently enlarged, it will be better and, in my opinion, cheaper to erect an entirely new building. With the sanction* of Government another bungalow has been recently hired at a monthly rent of Rupees 30 for the Settlement Officer's Cutcherry whilst the District is under settlement; but in all probability this additional building will be wanted till a new Cutcherry has been built.

* Order No. 1866 of 25th August 1858.

124. Some time ago, I believe, the Government called for an estimate of the expense of building a new Cutcherry at Silchar, and Lieutenant Stewart has shown me an estimate of the Public Works Department, according to which the total cost of the building would be Rupees 23,831 (omitting fractions). It seems to me that a very expensive structure of this description is not at present required at such a place as Silchar. If the Superintendent were allowed to construct his own Cutcherry, he would probably be able to build one, that would answer the purpose very well, for rather more than half the sum mentioned in the estimate.

CIRCUIT HOUSE

125. There is no Circuit House at Cachar, and as the Commissioner ought to visit this District at least once every year, one is required. When a new Cutcherry for the Superintendent has been constructed, the present Cutcherry might be used as a Circuit House, for which purpose it seems to be very well adapted.

MILITARY DEFENCES.

126. With reference to the orders of Government, No. 1241, dated the 29th of March last, I take this opportunity of offering a few remarks on the suggestions made by Lieutenant R. Stewart, in regard to the Military defences required for the Cachar District and the best and least expensive means of providing them.

127. Lieutenant Stewart has proposed to withdraw the Detachment of the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion, now on duty at Cachar, to augment the Kookie Levy from 200 to 640 men, and to entrust the defence of the Province to the Kookie Levy thus augmented, which is to be placed under the command of the Superintendent or of his Assistant.

128. In my Report, as per margin, to the Government, I have expressed my opinion regarding the present state and condition of the Kookie Levy. The Native Officers and Men behaved generally well in December and January last, when they were on service with the Sylhet Light Infantry against the mutineers of the 34th Regiment of Native Infantry; but I have no reason to believe that there has been any material alteration in the Military discipline and condition of the Levy since I wrote about them in October 1857.

No 296, October 23rd 1857.

129. In regard to Lieutenant Stewart's proposition I beg to state that after the fullest consideration I am of opinion that it would be extremely imprudent and indeed, I may add, dangerous, to withdraw the Detachment of the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion, now on duty in Cachar, and to entrust the defence of this exposed Frontier Province to the Kookie Levy, augmented as proposed by Lieutenant Stewart, and commanded by the Superintendent of Cachar or by his Assistant.

130. In the first place, the Civil business of the Cachar District is of such a nature that neither the Superintendent nor his Assistant can perform his Civil duties with efficiency, and at the same time organize and command a Regiment of 640 bayonets. The Superintendent and Commandant must neglect either his Civil or his Military duties, and probably both, under such an arrangement, would be but indifferently performed. The Civil duties of this large and thriving Province require the whole time and attention of both the Superintendent and his Assistant.

131. The Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion is acknowledged to be in a very efficient state, and its services in the field have proved it to be so. 250 men of this Corps would, I am satisfied, afford more real security to the District than 500 men of the Kookie Levy as it now is. The neighbouring wild Tribes are not, I think, quite as ignorant as we imagine in regard to our Military resources and arrangements in Cachar; they know pretty well of what material our Military Force is composed, and if the Detachment of the Sylhet Light Infantry was withdrawn and replaced by 640 bayonets of the Kookie Levy, as at present disciplined, it is not improbable that these wild Tribes would make marauding expeditions again into Cachar, and that the peace and prosperity of the Province might be seriously jeopardized.

132. I am convinced that the Military Force now holding these Frontier Districts* is altogether insufficient for their safety and protection. I take no account of the Detachment of the Indian Naval Brigade,† now at Sylhet, for it was sent there, I presume, merely as a temporary expedient to meet a temporary requirement. The numerous and fierce Hill Tribes located near the Southern and North-Eastern boundaries of Cachar, the Lhoochyes and the Angamee and Kutcha Nagas, may at any time make hostile and predatory inroads into the plains. The Cossyah mountaineers are an excitable and uncertain race, and are not to be depended upon, and in Sylhet there is a large and fanatical Mahomedan population, a great portion of which is known to be not well-affected to the Government.

* Sylhet. Cachar. Cossyah and Jynteah Hills.

† Since this was written, orders for the withdrawal of the Naval Detachment have been received.

133. The great deficiency and want of Troops in this part of the Country were made very apparent when the mutineers of the 34th Regiment Native Infantry entered the Sylhet District in December 1857; after having withdrawn the Guards of the jungle out-posts of Churgolah and Lungye in the Sylhet District (which, by the bye, led to a murderous attack by the Koochook Kookies upon some of the border villages in Thannah Latoo in Sylhet), and after having left all Guards standing at Cherra Poonjee and Sylhet, there were only about 155 men available for field service when the Battalion met the mutineers for the first time at Latoo.

134. It is by no means safe or prudent, in my opinion, to leave these Districts with the small Military Force now guarding them; but the proper remedy is not, I think, the

augmentation of the Kookie Levy; something more than a Kookie Levy seems to be required.

135. I would recommend that a new Corps of Light Infantry, somewhat similar to the "Bhaugulpore Hill Rangers," be raised for service on this Frontier, and in the Eastern Districts of Bengal if required. An additional Corps of this kind, of a strength not exceeding 640 bayonets, would, in my judgment, make this Frontier perfectly secure. It would be able to undertake the duties of Cachar and North Cachar, and would leave Sylhet and the Cossyah and Jynteah Hill Territory to be guarded by the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion. The Governor General's Agent on the North East Frontier is, I know, desirous that the Detachment of the 2nd Assam Light Infantry, now posted in North Cachar, should be relieved from that duty with the view of strengthening the Military Force in Lower Assam.

136. If a Corps of the proposed strength were cantoned in Cachar, it and the Sylhet Light Infantry would be able at all times to afford valuable Military aid in Assam and the Eastern Districts of Bengal. The Command of the Corps should always be kept entirely separate from the Civil functions of the Cachar District. The new Regiment might be denominated the 2nd Sylhet Light Infantry, and each Corps might take its tour of duty in the Hills.

137. The exemplary fidelity and good conduct of the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion, during the late trying crisis, is attributable, under Divine Providence, in a great measure to its having in its ranks men of very different tribes, castes, creeds and countries, and in raising a new Regiment for service in this part of the Country, this element of safety should not be overlooked. There might be three Companies composed of the Military Tribes in the North East Frontier, three Companies of Goorkhas, one Company of Behar men, and, if possible, one Company of Seikhs. Three Mountain Howitzers, with the requisite detail of European Artillery, should be attached to each Native Regiment on this Frontier.

138. Some such arrangement as that above mentioned, is, I think, very much required to strengthen the Military defences of those Frontier Districts, which at present seem to be in an unsatisfactory state. This is a subject which appears to be deserving of the early attention of the Government, for the warlike and semi-savage Tribes on this Frontier may, at any time, make a marauding expedition into our Territory, and when once this sort of thing begins, it is difficult to foresee, in the present unsatisfactory temper of the people, where it may end. I am fully persuaded that the proposed augmentation of the Kookie Levy will answer no good purpose. The Levy will not be required if another Regiment be raised, and it might form the nucleus of a New Corps; a large number of men who would not enlist for "General Service," would be very willing to join a Corps raised for service in this part of the Country.

THE KOOKIE LEVY.

139. If it be determined to retain the Kookie Levy on its present footing, the increase noted on the margin, is absolutely necessary to enable it to perform its duties with moderate efficiency.

Staff Pay for a Havildar Major	Rs. 8	per mensem.
Ten Naiks, at 7 Rs. 8 As. each	„ 75	„
Four Buglers, at 5 Rs. 8 As. each	„ 22	„
Total Increase ..	Rs. 105	„

140. There is at present no responsible person to keep the accounts of the Levy, or the duty rolls of the men. This work is done, I believe, by one of the Havildars without any extra pay; this arrangement, however, has been found very inconvenient; good and willing service cannot be had for nothing. Lieutenant Stewart wishes to have a Havildar Major, with an extra Staff allowance of eight Rupees a month, for the performance of these duties; the request seems to be reasonable, and ought, I think, to be complied with.

141. There are no Naiks in the Levy, and as it has to furnish many small Commands in distant places, great inconvenience is experienced from the want of that grade of Native Non-Commissioned Officer. Owing to the paucity of Native Officers attached to the Levy there is only one Havildar at each jungle out-post, and if this Officer falls sick, or is otherwise unavailable for duty, there is no Officer to Command the out-post party.

142. The Buglers are required for the stockaded out-posts. Four Sepoys have been taught, in a manner, the use of the bugle, but they do the duty indifferently, and it is not safe to leave these stockaded out-posts in the distant jungles without a Bugler to sound the alarm and call the men within the stockades whenever the wild Tribes approach, or any other sudden emergency occurs. I ought to mention that no proper bugles have been provided for these Sepoy Buglers, who are now using some old and worn-out instruments, which were made a present to the Levy some years ago by Colonel Lister. New bugles, as well as Buglers, are much required. If the Kookie Levy is to be maintained, these little wants should be attended to, for unless they are supplied, the efficiency of the Levy is impaired, and perhaps some day or other some of the Guards at these distant jungle out-posts may be surprised, overpowered and massacred by the Hill men they are intended to hold in check.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. J. ALLEN,

Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.

APPENDICES.

Appendix A.

REGISTER showing the Applications made for Tea Gardens in the District of Cachar.

Numbers.	Names of Planters.	Area.	Remarks.
		Acres.	
1	G. Williamson, Esq.	1,000	
2	J. P. Wise, Esq.	1,000	
3	M. Herring, Esq.	3,000	
4	F. Tydd, Esq.	1,500	Withdrawn in favor of Mr. Sweetland's application.
5	Cachar Tea Company	12,000	
6	W. Sweetland, Esq.	1,500	
7	Assam Tea Company	3,000	
8	Serjeant Fitzgerald	500	
9	Major Graham	800	
10	C. Mackay, Esq.	500	
11	Lieutenant Vincent	1,000	
12	Assam Company	1,500	
13	Messrs. Borradaile and Co.	5,000	
14	J. Hogg, Esq.	5,000	
15	G. A. Coleman, Esq.	500	
16	W. Sweetland, Esq.	1,500	
17	E. D. Kilburn, Esq.	1,000	
18	A. D. Donne, Esq.	1,500	
19	T. H. Lemaistre, Esq.	2,500	
20	W. Dawes, Esq.	1,200	
21	J. Borradaile, Esq.	1,000	
22	F. Tydd, Esq.	1,500	
23	W. Foley, Esq.	2,000	
24	W. Weinholt, Esq.	4,000	
25	Ditto	4,000	
26	M. Herring, Esq.	1,500	
27	F. Tydd, Esq.	2,000	
28	R. G. Haddan, Esq.	2,000	
29	J. P. Wise, Esq.	4,000	
30	H. G. de Fouchy, Esq.	5,000	
31	A. Brownlow, Esq.	2,000	
32	J. Sandeman, Esq.	1,000	
33	F. Tydd, Esq.	2,000	
34	Cachar Company	500	Struck off at the applicant's own request.
35	D. Sandeman, Esq.	1,000	
36	G. Parker, Esq.	2,000	
37	W. Weinholt, Esq.	5,000	Struck off, there being no proper power of Attorney, and application defective.
38	A. Brownlow, Esq.	4,000	
39	Ditto	2,000	Struck off at the request of applicant.
40	H. de Mornay, Esq.	2,000	
41	J. Pogose, Esq.	1,000	
42	A. Brownlow, Esq.	5,000	
		1,00,000	
	Deduct Area, Nos. 4, 34, 37, 39, struck off...	9,000	
	Balance of Total ...	91,000	

(Signed) S. M. SHIRCORE,
Offg. Asst. Supdt. in Charge.

The 9th July 1857.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix B.

(CIRCULAR.)

No. 168 of 1856.

To

THE TEA PLANTERS of CACHAR.

Dated Cachar, 30th August 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that on the first four applications for grants of Tea lands in my District being submitted to the Board of Revenue for orders, they were returned to the Commissioner, the Board being unable to sanction grants applied for in so indefinite a manner, it being uncertain whether they contained within their limits one, ten or fifteen thousand acres. The Board, therefore, requires that each applicant should, in the first instance, have a survey made that would show approximately the true area and correct boundaries, after which the Board would be able to judge of the propriety of granting it in full or not. The Board sees no objections to my permitting parties commencing operations, but directs me to keep their works within proper limits, and not allow them to extend over a wide range, so that there may be no cause of dispute or confusion hereafter. The grants are to be compact, all lands comprised within the limits, Tea or other, being included and subject to the same terms. All lands in the plains and outside the Tea tracts, are not to be included, but are to be settled on the same terms as with other cultivators.

2. With reference to the above orders of the Board of Revenue, I have the honor to request that each applicant for Tea lands in my District will, without loss of time, cause a correct survey of the lands they wish to be included in their grants to be made, giving the true area and correct boundaries. Further, I beg that no party will commence cultivating in more than one locality, so that none may be disappointed hereafter, by the Board refusing to include in the grant lands which may have been cleared and cultivated, they not falling within the limits which the Board may think proper to sanction, but at the same time, I beg it may be understood that I have no objection to a party extending its cultivation from any one given point, as much as it pleases, in a compact way.

3. I trust applicants will lose no time in causing the lands they require to be surveyed, it being very desirable that the settlements should be completed without delay, and the applications of those parties which have been already submitted shall be considered as cancelled, should corrected applications, together with the necessary Survey Maps and Papers, not be submitted to me within a period of three months from this day.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. VERNER,
Superintendent.

(True Copy)
(Signed) R. STEWART,
Offg. Superintendent.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix C.

No. 221.

To

THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE FOR THE DIVISION OF DACCA.

Fort William, the 26th September 1856.

SIR,

Land Revenue.

W. DAMPIER, and H. STAINFORTH, Esquires.

WITH reference to my letter to your address, No. 176, dated 8th Ultimo, I am directed to forward copy of a letter to my address from the Officiating Secretary Assam Company, giving cover to an Extract from a Circular issued by Captain Verner, Superintendent of Cachar, on the 30th Idem, and apparently upon the receipt of the orders contained in my letter above referred to.

2. The Board did not intend, when directing that the works of the grantees of waste lands should be kept within proper limits until survey, to restrict them to one locality as Captain Verner has ordered in the 2nd Para. of his Circular. They may, the Board think, be allowed to carry on operations within reasonable limits in places not likely to be brought into other grants or to clash with the Tea cultivation of other parties.

3. Referring to the rules for the grant of waste lands, the Board find that the grantees are not called upon to do more than to deposit with the Collector a sum of money sufficient to provide for a proper survey by a Compass Ameen, whom Government are expected to furnish. The instructions issued by Captain Verner, in the 3rd Para. of his Circular, would appear, therefore, not to be in accordance with the rules.

4. You will, therefore, direct Captain Verner to cancel the 2nd and 3rd Paras. of his Circular.

5. The Deputy Surveyor General has been asked whether he can furnish some competent Compass Ameens, and the result shall be duly communicated to you.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. T. TREVOR,
Officiating Secretary.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix D.

To

W. J. ALLEN, ESQUIRE,
Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.

Goorgoor Hills, Cachar, the 27th March 1858.

SIR,

As employer of the Kookies and Nagas interested in the accompanying "case," I have the honor of appealing to you on their behalf.

These people have annually been called upon by Government for Company's Rupee (1) one per house, in lieu, as they understood, of being allowed to appropriate small portions of land for their "joom" cultivation.

On their "jooms" they exclusively subsisted, and *then* very willingly paid the sum demanded by your Board; but having *now* thrown up joom cultivation, and been engaged for the last eighteen months as monthly and daily laborers upon our Gardens, they naturally claim exemption from payment of a tax not in any way incurred.

The Superintendent of the Province has pronounced the claims, so urged, as insufficient, and the sum accordingly (Rupees 102 in all) has been paid into the Cachar Treasury; we, however, "protesting" and here begging to submit the whole "case" to your consideration.

Lieutenant Stewart's reason for insisting on the payment of the tax is this—"it is a *House*, not a *Land* tax."

As levied, I admit it does bear a greater resemblance to the former; but evidently this arises from the impossibility of collecting *Land* revenue from such people as the Hill tribes generally. In point of fact this rent bears the like position in reference to Kookies and Nagas that land taxes do to Hindoos and Mussulmans holding property under Government. Both parties pay the value of a recognized *benefit*; but ceasing to avail themselves of that benefit, and to gain their livelihood in another way, the Hindoo and Mussulman is liable to no tax, whereas the Kookie and Naga is still called upon to pay *as a cooly* an income tax! and that equal to 6¾ in the pound!! on a yearly income of three pounds twelve shillings!!!

You Sir and Mr. Stewart will both excuse me for pressing the subject as I have done; but I feel assured the whole case, taken upon its merits, will meet with a favorable consideration.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES DAVIDSON,
Superintendent Cachar Company.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

No. 59 OF 1858.

To

THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE, CHERRA POONJEE.

Cachar, the 5th April 1858.

SIR,

IN compliance with your letter No. 625 of the 31st Ultimo, I have the honor to return its enclosures, and forward the papers in my Office relating to them, together with the following report upon the case.

2. The Kookies, Nagas, and Cacharies, the Hill tribes of this District, pay no land rent, but are taxed at the rate of one Rupee per house per annum in lieu of all other taxes. Under this arrangement they can go where they like, and settling down on any khas lands clear and cultivate them, abandoning the lands again as soon as the required number of crops have been taken off.

3. Several endeavours have been made to fix these people and regularly settle them on the soil; but these have all been found unavailing, for although they have been persuaded to take up a certain number of acres of land, it is impossible to keep them within these limits, and as soon as they exhaust the soil within, they remove to other lands. Consequently it will be found that many villages have their actual sites on settled lands for which revenue is paid, though they are not exempt from the house tax.

4. The above is almost exactly the case with a large number of Nagas and Kookies who have settled upon the grant applied for by the Cachar Company. Mr. Davidson's letter represents them as daily or monthly laborers, but this is not the case, for they need only labor as much and when it pleases themselves, devoting their time to whatever other object suits them. And it is not to be supposed that because there is no "joom cultivation" in their immediate vicinity that therefore they do not cultivate on their own account, for these people are in the habit of going two and three days' journey to their fields, and this very village of Kookies on the Cachar Company's grant has this year cultivated in Burkhola, good sixteen miles away from the Tea plantation. Indeed their own peculiar cultivation is essentially necessary to them, and they cannot get on without it.

5. I am of opinion that the tax upon the Kookies and Nagas is a just and equitable one, and should be uniformly exacted. If these villages are now exempted on the principle that their sites are on settled land, there will be an immediate loss to Government of, I should say, about Rupees 1,000 annually, such being the number of houses already on settled lands, and in the end we would find the house tax go into desuetude altogether, for all the villages would then nominally settle themselves, both here and in North Cachar, Government being losers thereby of upwards of Rupees 10,000 a year.

6. Were any direct benefit received in return for this loss or even for the expected immediate fall-off of Revenue to the sum of Rupees 1,000, it might be desirable to endure it; but, on the contrary, we find that the exemption is sued for by parties (the Tea Planters) who themselves pay only a nominal rent to Government, being exempted from all payments for fifteen years, and who would thus not only be exempt themselves, but would drain upon another legitimate source of Revenue.

7. If the above reasons are not in themselves sufficient to persuade you that this tax should be uniformly exacted from all the Hill tribes I would urge a grave political objection to admitting a principle which exempts any of them. These tribes are a rude and wild people, each village under its own Chief, and with its own form of Government, living almost in an independent state. This tax, therefore, is, and ought to be looked upon more as a tribute in acknowledgment of our sovereignty than as a return or recompense for any thing that they receive from us, except protection, and the withdrawal of it would serve to decrease the importance of Government in the eyes of this wild people, and might be the cause of much difficulty hereafter.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Officiating Superintendent.

P. S.—The House-tax is a very light one, and is much exaggerated by Mr. Davidson, when he says it amounts to sixpence in the pound. The members of a household, consisting say of five individuals—a man, his wife and three children—if they labored at the lightest work in Mr. Davidson's Plantation, they would earn upwards of Rupees 100 in the year, and if on their own cultivation, about Rupees 50 or 60, and all provision for themselves besides; the tax, therefore, is less than 1 per cent. on their gross annual income.

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Officiating Superintendent.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix E.

Proposed rates according to which Tolls shall be levied at the Sealtekh Transit Ghaut on Articles exported.

Names of Articles Taxed.	Toll to be levied.		
Timber.			
Jarul Trees, under 12 haths in length, each	1	0	0
Ditto ditto, above ditto, ditto	2	0	0
Ditto Planks, Posts, Rafters, ditto	0	1	0
Timber of all other kinds.			
Under 12 haths in length, each	0	8	0
Ditto above 12 and under 16 ditto, ditto	1	0	0
Ditto ditto 16 ditto 20 ditto, ditto	2	0	0
Ditto ditto 20 ditto	3	0	0
Ditto Planks, Posts, Rafters, ditto	0	0	6
Bamboos, per 1,000	1	0	0
Ratans.			
Jally and Soondie Bate, per 100 bundles	1	8	0
Gulla ditto ditto	2	0	0

(Signed) G. VERNER,
Superintendent.

(True Copy)
(Signed) R. STEWART,
Offg. Superintendent.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix F.

STATEMENT showing the Demands and Collections on account of the Abkaree Mehal of Zillah Cachar.

Years.	Mehals.	Demands.	Collections.	Cost of Opium, at Rupees 5-8 per seer.	Net Revenue.
		Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
1853-54	Country Spirits	228 2 0	228 2 0	0 0 0	228 2 0
	Muddut	101 12 0	101 12 0	0 0 0	101 12 0
	Ganjah...	1,202 12 0	1,202 12 0	0 0 0	1,202 12 0
	Opium	7,068 0 0	7,968 0 0	3,652 0 0	4,316 0 0
	Total	9,500 10 9	9,500 10 9	3,652 0 0	5,848 10 9
1854-55	Country Spirits	199 12 0	199 12 0	0 0 0	199 12 0
	Muddut	95 2 0	95 2 0	0 0 0	95 2 0
	Ganjah...	1,382 6 6	1,382 6 6	0 0 0	1,382 6 6
	Opium	9,744 0 0	9,744 0 0	4,466 0 0	5,278 0 0
	Total	11,421 4 6	11,421 4 6	4,466 0 0	6,955 4 6
1855-56	Country Spirits	129 10 0	129 10 0	0 0 0	129 10 0
	Muddut	91 8 0	91 8 0	0 0 0	91 8 0
	Ganjah...	1,380 6 0	1,380 6 0	0 0 0	1,380 6 0
	Opium	13,212 0 0	13,212 0 0	6,055 8 0	7,156 8 0
	Total	14,813 8 0	14,813 8 0	6,055 8 0	8,758 0 0
1856-57	Country Spirits	136 14 0	136 14 0	0 0 0	136 14 0
	Muddut	91 4 0	91 4 0	0 0 0	91 4 0
	Ganjah...	1,495 3 0	1 495 3 0	0 0 0	1,495 3 0
	Opium	12,096 0 0	12,096 0 0	5,544 0 0	6,552 0 0
	Total	13,819 5 0	13,819 5 0	5,544 0 0	8,275 5 0
1857-58	Country Spirits	148 4 6	148 4 6	0 0 0	148 4 6
	Muddut	114 1 0	114 1 0	0 0 0	114 1 0
	Ganjah...	1,368 12 0	1,368 12 0	0 0 0	1,368 12 0
	Opium	14,772 0 0	14,772 0 0	6,770 8 0	8,001 8 0
	Total	16,403 1 6	16,403 1 6	6,770 8 0	9,632 9 6

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Officiating Superintendent.

(True Copy)

S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix E.

No. 193.

Memorandum regarding the re-opening of the old Channel of the Dullesur.

The River Dullesur, which flows between the Pergunnahs of Hylcakandy and Seraspoor, was formerly the main channel of drainage from the Hills to the South, where it rises, and from those both on its right and left bank. Some 80 or 100 years ago, however, the waters quitted their legitimate bed, cut out a course for themselves further to the East, and remain flowing in it to this day, the new channel being called the Cutta Khal. This new Channel is by no means so well-adapted for the waters as the old one. It is very narrow. In the cold weather it answers all purposes well enough, and remains navigable; but in the rains the waters rise over the banks and overflow both sides, at the same time rushing down with such velocity as scarcely to admit of the ascent of boats.

In the meantime the old bed of the Dullesur has, at the point of departure of the Cutta Khal, become completely filled up, to the distance of two miles along its course, and a forest now grows over it; below this the river is almost dry in the cold weather, and never more than one quarter filled even in the height of the rains.

At this season, therefore, upon a dead plain we have two channels running parallel to one another, at a distance of three or four miles, the level of the waters of one being 12 or 15 feet higher than those of the other. The effect is obvious. Wherever and whenever the waters of the Cutta Khal can escape their banks, they rush over the intermediate country to the lower level of the Dullesur, destroying crops and sometimes sweeping away houses, and rendering a great part of the Country irreclaimable.

It is not contemplated to deprive the Cutta Khal of all its waters, but simply by re-opening the channel of the Dullesur, to equalize the flow of the waters, and to secure two lines of navigation.

Visiting Hylcakandy at the height of the rains this year, the above circumstances and their remedy were brought forcibly to my notice.

I spoke to the people on the subject, pointed out to those on the East side and those between the Channels the advantage of escaping the inundations, and to those on the banks of the Dullesur the benefits of perennial water communication. My endeavours resulted in their agreeing to subscribe towards the object, assessing themselves for the purpose at the rate of one anna per Rupee on their jumma, which they asked me to collect. This would give a sum of only Rupees 1,200, which being insufficient, I addressed the Tea Planters in order to induce them to subscribe also. The advantages to them would be chiefly in water communication, the Dullesur flowing past the doors of many of their factories. The Silchar Company and Messrs. Parker and Co. willingly gave their assent, and subscribed at the rate of two annas per acre of their applied for grants; but the Assam Company, the Bengal Company, and Messrs. Borradaile and Co., although they recognized the benefits that would arise from the undertaking, and expressed their willingness to aid it, yet declined to do so, until put formally in possession of their applications by the grants of Pottahs. As some time will elapse before these are settled, the project of re-opening the old bed of the Dullesur has been given up for this year.

Two miles of the old channel, which is a somewhat circuitous one, is quite filled in, and overgrown with forest. A straight cut of a mile and a half might introduce the waters to the portion of the old bed still unfilled. Advantage could be here taken also of a small Nullah which joins the Dullesur from the East, and I think the necessary excavations might be made for about Rupees 3,000 or 4,000.

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Officiating Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE;
ZILLAH CACHAR,
The 18th October 1858.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix Y.

TABLE of Exports of the Cachar District for the Years 1853-54 *and* 1854-55.

NAME OF ARTICLES.	In 1853-54.			In 1854-55.		
	Rate.	Amount.	Value.	Rate.	Amount.	Value.
			Rs. As. P.			Rs. As. P.
Betel-nuts	at 1 Rupee per 1,000	No. 50,00,000	5,000 0 0	at 1 Rupee per 1,000	50,00,000	5000 0 0
Bamboos	at 2 Rupees 8 Annas per 1,000	30,00,000	7,500 0 0	at 2 Rupees 8 Annas per 1,000	30,00,000	7,500 0 0
Buffaloes	at 30 Rupees	No. 300	9,000 0 0	at 30 Rupees	No. 400	12,000 0 0
Cane of various kinds	at 6 Pie	Bls. 20,000	625 0 0	at 9 Pie	Bls 25,000	1,171 14 9
Cotton, Raw	at 2½ Rupees	Mds. 3,000	7,500 0 0	at 2½ Rupees	Mds 3,000	7,500 0 0
Canoes	at 10 Rupees	No. 300	3,000 0 0	at 10 Rupees	No. 300	3,000 0 0
Cows	at 6 Rupees	75	450 0 0	at 6 Rupees	75	450 0 0
Elephants	at 300 Rupees	100	30,000 0 0	at 400 Rupees	150	60,000 0 0
Goats	at 12 Annas	1,000	750 0 0	at 12 Annas	1,200	900 0 0
Gundi*	at 1 Rupee	Mds. 500	500 0 0	at 1 Rupee 4 Annas	Mds. 500	625 0 0
Ivory	at 125 Rupees	40	5,000 0 0	at 125 Rupees	40	5,000 0 0
Linseed	at 2 Rupees	1,000	2,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees	2,000	4,000 0 0
Mustard Seed	at 2 Rupees	10,000	20,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees	10,000	20,000 0 0
Nuggesur Seed	at 1 Rupee	500	500 0 0	at 1 Rupee 4 Annas	500	625 0 0
Paddy	at 2 Annas 10 Pie	1,50,000	26,562 8 0	at 3 Annas 9 Pie	2,00,000	46,875 0 0
Ponies	at 50 Rupees	10	500 0 0	at 50 Rupees	10	500 0 0
Reeds	at 8 Annas a score	Bls. 15,000	375 0 0	at 10 Annas a score	Bls. 15,000	468 12 0
Rice	at 9 Annas a Md.	40,000	22,500 0 0	at 10 Annas	40,000	25,000 0 0
Sesame Seed	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	1,500	2,625 0 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	1,500	2,625 0 0
Timber of all kinds	at 8 Rupees	No. 15,000	1,20,000 0 0	at 8 Rupees	No. 15,000	1,20,000 0 0
Thatching Grass	at 12 Annas per 1,000	Bls. 20,00,000	1,500 0 0	at 12 Annas per 1,000	Bls. 30,00,000	2,250 0 0
Tea			0 0 0			0 0 0
Wax	at 30 Rupees	400	12,000 0 0	at 30 Rupees	400	12,000 0 0
Agur Chundun, a scent			10,000 0 0			10,000 0 0
Miscellaneous Export			10,000 0 0			10,000 0 0
Total			2,97,387 8 0			3,57,490 10 0

* A plant of the Turmeric species, which is brought from the Northern Jungles of Cachar by the Hill Tribes. The stalk is used in Cachar as an article of food, and the root, which is bulbous, is largely exported into the Bengal Districts, and is said to be used there chiefly as a Cattle medicine.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE;
ZILLAH CACHAR,
The 2nd November 1858.

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Offg. Superintendent.

(True Copy)

W. J. ALLEN,
Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.

S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix H.—(Concluded.)

TABLE of Exports of the Cachar District for the Years 1855-56, 1856-57 *and* 1857-58.

NAME OF ARTICLES.	In 1855-56.			In 1856-57.			In 1857-58.		
	Rate.	Amount.	Value.	Rate.	Amount.	Value.	Rate.	Amount.	Value.
			Rs. As. P.			Rs. As. P.			Rs. As. P.
Betel-nuts	at 1 Rupee per 1,000	50,00,000	5,000 0 0	at 1 Rupee per 1,000	50,00,000	5,000 0 0	at 1 Rupee per 1,000	50,00,000	5,000 0 0
Bamboos	at 3 Rupees per 1,000	30,00,000	9,000 0 0	at 4 Rupees per 1,000	30,00,000	12,000 0 0	at 5 Rupees per 1,000	20,05,000	10,025 0 0
Buffaloes	at 35 Rupees	400	14,000 0 0	at 40 Rupees	400	16,000 0 0	at 40 Rupees	350	14,000 0 0
Cane of various kinds	at 1 Anna	Bls. 30,000	1,875 0 0	at 2 Annas	25,000	3,125 0 0	at 3 Annas	20,000	3,750 0 0
Cotton, Raw	at 3 Rupees	Mds. 3,000	9,000 0 0	at 4 Rupees	Mds. 3,000	12,000 0 0	at 5 Rupees	Mds. 3,000	15,000 0 0
Canoes	at 12 Rupees	No. 400	4,800 0 0	at 15 Rupees	No. 400	6,000 0 0	at 20 Rupees	No. 300	6,000 0 0
Cows	at 6 Rupees	75	450 0 0	at 7 Rupees	50	350 0 0	at 8 Rupees	50	400 0 0
Elephants	at 400 Rupees	100	40,000 0 0	at 500 Rupees	20	10,000 0 0	at 600 Rupees	45	27,000 0 0
Goats	at 1 Rupee	1,500	1,500 0 0	at 1 Rupee	1,700	1,700 0 0	at 1 Rupee 4 Annas	2,000	2,500 0 0
Gundi*	at 1 Rupee 8 Annas	Mds. 300	450 0 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	Mds. 200	350 0 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	Mds. 100	175 0 0
Ivory	at 125 Rupees	60	7,500 0 0	at 125 Rupees	20	2,500 0 0	at 150 Rupees	20	3,000 0 0
Linseed	at 2 Rupees	3,000	6,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees	4,000	8,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees	5,000	10,000 0 0
Mustard Seed	at 3 Rupees	12,000	24,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees	15,600	30,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees	15,000	30,000 0 0
Nuggeesur Seed	at 1 Rupee 8 Annas	500	750 0 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	500	875 0 0	at 2 Rupees	560	1,050 0 0
Paddy	at 5 Annas 4 Pie	22,00,000	73,333 5 0	at 6 Annas 8 Pie	3,60,000	1,25,000 0 0	at 8 Annas	50,000	25,000 0 0
Ponies	at 50 Rupees	15	750 0 0	at 60 Rupees	20	1,200 0 0	at 60 Rupees	20	1,200 0 0
Reeds	at 12 Annas a score	Bls. 15,000	562 8 0	at 14 Annas a score	17,000	743 12 0	at 1 Rupee a score	Bls. 20,000	1,000 0 0
Rice	at 10 Annas 8 Pie	50,000	33,333 5 0	at 11 Annas 7 Pie	70,000	50,677 0 0	at 12 Annas	10,000	7,500 0 0
Seeds	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	1,750	3,062 8 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	2,000	3,500 0 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas	2,500	4,375 0 0
Sesame Seed	at 10 Rupees	15,000	1,35,000 0 0	at 10 Rupees	No. 20,000	2,00,000 0 0	at 12 Rupees	15,000	1,80,000 0 0
Timber of all kinds	at 1 Rupee per 1,000	35,00,000	3,500 0 0	at 1 Rupee 8 Annas per 1,000	40,00,000	6,000 0 0	at 2 Rupees per 1,000	60,00,000	12,000 0 0
Thatching Grass				at 80 Rupees	20	1,600 0 0	at 80 Rupees	50	4,000 0 0
Tea	at 30 Rupees	400	12,000 0 0	at 30 Rupees	400	12,000 0 0	at 30 Rupees	400	12,000 0 0
Wax			10,000 0 0			10,000 0 0			10,000 0 0
Agur Chundun, a scent			10,000 0 0			10,000 0 0			10,000 0 0
Miscellaneous Export									
Total			4,05,866 10 0			5,28,620 12 0			3,94,925 0 0

* A plant of the Turmeric species, which is brought from the Northern Jungles of Cachar by the Hill Tribes. The stalk is used in Cachar as an article of food, and the root, which is bulbous, is largely exported into the Bengal Districts, and is said to be used there chiefly as a Cattle medicine.

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Offg. Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE;
ZILLAH CACHAR,
The 2nd November 1858.

W. J. ALLEN,
Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix K.

TABLE of Imports of the Cachar District for the Years 1853-54 *and* 1854-55.

NAME OF ARTICLES.	In 1853-54.			In 1854-55.		
	Rate.	Amount.	Value.	Rate.	Amount.	Value.
			Rs. As. P.			Rs. As. P.
Betel-nuts	*at* 1 Rupee per 1,000	1,80,00,000	18,000 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee per 1,000	1,80,00,000	18,000 0 0
Brass and Copper	*at* 54 Rupees 5 Annas per md.	Mds. 392	10,971 0 0	*at* 59 Rupees 14 Annas per md.	232 Mds. 10 Seers	13,905 15 0
Blankets	*at* 1 Rupee each	150	150 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee each	150	150 0 0
Buffaloes	*at* 28 Rupees each	1,200	27,600 0 0	*at* 24 Rupees each	1,700	40,800 0 0
Cocoanuts	*at* 8 Annas per score	4,000	100 0 0	*at* 10 Annas per score	5,000	156 4 0
Capsicums	*at* 10 Rupees per md.	Mds. 80	800 0 0	*at* 6 Rupees per md.	Mds. 80	480 0 0
Cotton-cloth of kinds (White)	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	31,470 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	32,066 12 0
Ditto (Colored)	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	3,285 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	3,802 8 0
Cows	*at* 6 Rupees each	300	1,800 0 0	*at* 6 Rupees each	300	1,800 0 0
Elephants	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	0 0 0	*at* 700 Rupees each	2	1,400 0 0
European Stores (Miscellaneous)	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	2,400 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	2,400 0 0
Ghee	*at* 16 Rupees per md.	Mds. 60	960 0 0	*at* 16 Rupees per md.	Mds. 70	1,120 0 0
Ganja	*at* 50 Rupees per md.	Mds. 28	1,400 0 0	*at* 55 Rupees per md.	Mds. 23	1,265 0 0
Iron	*at* 10 Rupees per md.	Mds. 200	2,000 0 0	*at* 10 Rupees per md.	Mds. 200	2,000 0 0
Implements of Husbandry	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	0 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	0 0 0
Lime	*at* 4 Annas per md.	750	187 8 0	*at* 5 Annas per md.	600	187 8 0
Miscellaneous Stores and Articles, Native	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	3,666 4 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	4,090 4 0
Onions	*at* 1 Rupee per md.	400	400 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee 4 Annas per md.	400	500 0 0
Opium	*at* 12 Rupees per seer	Mds. 21	10,080 0 0	*at* 12 Rupees per seer	Mds. 21	10,080 0 0
Oil	*at* 10 Rupees per md.	Mds. 200	2,000 0 0	*at* 11 Rupees per md.	Mds. 250	2,750 0 0
Pat or Hemp	*at* 1 Rupee 8 Annas per md.	Mds. 200	300 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee 8 Annas per md.	Mds. 300	450 0 0
Pawn Leaf	*at* 9 Rupees 6 Annas per 100 bdls.	Bdls. 1,92,000	18,000 0 0	*at* 9 Rupees 6 Annas per 100 bdls.	Bdls. 1,92,000	18,000 0 0
Ponies	*at* 50 Rupees each	25	1,250 0 0	*at* 50 Rupees each	30	1,500 0 0
Salt	*at* 4 Rupees per md.	Mds. 4,500	18,000 0 0	*at* 4 Rupees per md.	Mds. 5,000	20,000 0 0
Sugar	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	4,200 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	4,640 0 0
Spices	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,096 12 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	972 8 0
Soap	*at* 15 Rupees per md.	Mds. 15	225 0 0	*at* 15 Rupees per md.	Mds. 15	225 0 0
Silk Cloth	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	720 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,680 0 0
Satins	*at* 8 Rupees per md.	Mds. 1,000	8,000 0 0	*at* 8 Rupees per md.	Mds. 1,000	8,000 0 0
Tobacco	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	0 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	0 0 0
Tea Seed	*at* 1 Rupee per md.	Mds. 100	100 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee per md.	Mds. 160	160 0 0
Turmeric	*at* 12 Annas per md.	Mds. 200	150 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee per md.	Mds. 300	300 0 0
Tamarind	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	3,340 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	3,935 0 0
Vetches, Dal, Gram, Pease, Kallai, &c.	*at* 8 Annas per yd.	Yds. 1,000	500 0 0	*at* 8 Annas per yd.	Yds. 1,000	500 0 0
Velvets	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	2,952 8 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	3,272 8 0
Woollen Cloths						
Total	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,76,104 0 0	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	2,01,219 3 0

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE;
ZILLAH CACHAR,
The 2nd November 1855.

(Signed) R. STEWART, *Offg. Superintendent.*

(True Copy)
S. BIRD, *Head Assistant.*

Appendix E.—*(Concluded.)*

TABLE of Imports of the Cachar District for the Years 1855-56, 1856-57 *and* 1857-58.

NAME OF ARTICLES.	In 1855-56.			In 1856-57.			In 1857-58.		
	Rate.	Amount.	Value.	Rate.	Amount.	Value.	Rate.	Amount.	Value.
			Rs. As. P.			Rs. As. P.			Rs. As. P.
Betel-nuts	*at* 1 Rupee per 1,000	1,80,000,00	18,000 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee per 1,000	1,80,00,000	18,000 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee per 1,000	1,80,00,000	18,000 0 0
Brass and Copper	*at* 59 Rs. 14 Ans. per md.	Mds. 232 Srs 10	13,945 15 0	*at* 59 Rupees 14 As. per md.	Mds. 252	15,088 8 0	*at* 67 Rupees 8 Annas per md	Mds. 242	16,250 6 0
Blankets	*at* 1 Rupee 4 Annas each	225	281 4 0	*at* 1 Rupee 4 Annas per each	225	281 4 0	*at* 1 Rupee 8 Annas each	150	225 0 0
Buffaloes	*at* 26 Rupees each	1,700	40,800 0 0	*at* 25 Rupees each	1,700	42,500 0 0	*at* 30 Rupees each.	1,500	45,000 0 0
Cocoanuts	*at* 10 Annas per score	6,000	187 8 0	*at* 9 Annas per score	8,000	225 0 0	*at* 10 Annas per score.	5,000	250 0 0
Capsicums	*at* 6 Rupees per md.	Mds. 100	600 0 0	*at* 6 Rupees 4 Annas per md.	100	625 0 0	*at* 5 Rupees per md.	100	500 0 0
Cotton Cloth of kinds (White)			38,589 0 0			41,343 0 0			52,191 8 0
Ditto (Colored)			5,370 0 2			6,687 8 0			9,477 8 0
Cows	*at* 6 Rupees each	250	1,500 0 0	*at* 7 Rupees each	200	1,400 0 0	*at* 8 Rupees each	150	1,200 0 0
Elephants	*at* 700 Rupees each	5	3,500 0 0			0 0 0	*at* 1,000 Rupees each	2	2,000 0 0
European Stores (Miscellaneous)			3,500 0 0			5,000 0 0			6,000 0 0
Ghee	*at* 16 Rupees per md.	Mds. 70	1,120 0 0	*at* 17 Rupees per md.	Mds. 80	1,360 0 0	*at* 18 Rupees per md.	Mds. 90	1,620 0 0
Ganja	*at* 55 Rupees per md.	Mds. 33	1,870 0 0	*at* 60 Rupees per md.	Mds. 28	1,680 0 0	*at* 60 Rupees per md.	Mds. 31	1,860 0 0
Iron	*at* 13 Rupees per md.	Mds. 250	3,250 0 0	*at* 16 Rupees per md.	Mds. 300	4,800 0 0	*at* 16 Rupees per md.	Mds. 400	6,400 0 0
Implements of Husbandry	*at* 1 Rupee each	1,000	1,000 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee each	5,000	5,000 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee each	1,000	1,000 0 0
Lime	*at* 6 Annas per md.	900	337 8 0	*at* 6 Annas per md.	800	300 0 0	*at* 7 Annas per md.	600	262 8 0
Miscellaneous Stores and Articles, Native			4,127 8 0			4,593 14 0			3,976 12 0
Onions	*at* 1 Rupee 8 Annas per md.	Mds. 400	600 0 0	at 1 Rupee 12 Annas per md	400	700 0 0	*at* 2 Rupees per md.	400	800 0 0
Opium	*at* 12 Rupees per seer	Mds. 36	17,280 0 0	at 12 Rupees per seer	Mds. 30	14,400 0 0	*at* 12 Rupees per seer	Mds. 21	10,080 0 0
Oil	*at* 11 Rupees per md	Mds. 250	2,750 0 0	at 12 Rupees per md.	Mds. 300	3,600 0 0	*at* 12 Rupees per md.	Mds. 300	3,600 0 0
Pat or Hemp	*at* 1 Rupee 12 Annas per md	Mds. 400	700 0 0	*at* 3 Rupees per md.	Mds. 400	1,200 0 0	*at* 2 Rupees 8 Annas per md.	Mds. 400	1,000 0 0
Pawn Leaf	*at* 9 Rs. 6 Annas per 100 bdls	Bdls. 1,92,000	18,000 0 0	*at* 9 Rs. 6 Ans. per 100 bdls.	Bdls. 1,92,000	18 000 0 0	*at* 9 Rs. 6 Ans per 100 bdls.	Bdls. 1,92,000	18,000 0 0
Ponies	*at* 50 Rupees each	35	1,750 0 0	*at* 50 Rupees each	35	1,750 0 0	*at* 50 Rupees each	40	2,000 0 0
Salt	*at* 4 Rupees per md.	Mds 5,500	22,000 0 0	*at* 4 Rupees per md.	Mds. 6,000	24,000 0 0	*at* 4 Rupees per md.	6,500	26,000 0 0
Sugar			4,860 0 0			5,670 0 0			6,000 0 0
Spices			1,094 8 0			1,011 8 0			1,116 8 0
Soap	*at* 15 Rupees per md.	Mds. 15	225 0 0	*at* 15 Rupees per md.	Mds. 15	225 0 0	*at* 15 Rupees per md.	Mds. 15	225 0 0
Silk Cloth			870 0 0			1,235 0 0			1,300 0 0
Satins									
Tobacco	*at* 9 Rupees per md.	Mds. 1,050	9,450 0 0	*at* 9 Rupees per md.	Mds. 1,050	9,450 0 0	*at* 12 Rupees per md.	Mds. 1,100	13,200 0 0
Tea Seed	*at* 10 Rupees per md.	30	300 0 0	at 20 Rupees per md.	150	3,000 0 0	*at* 50 Rupees per md.	400	20,000 0 0
Turmeric	*at* 1 Rupee per md.	Mds. 100	100 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee per md.	Mds. 100	100 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee 4 Annas per md.	Mds. 100	125 0 0
Tamarind	*at* 14 Annas per md.	Mds. 400	350 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee 2 Annas per md.	Mds. 400	450 0 0	*at* 1 Rupee 4 Annas per md.	Mds. 300	375 0 0
Vetches, Dal, Gram, Pease, Kallai, &c.			4,577 8 0			5,446 8 0			6,850 0 0
Velvets	*at* 10 Annas per yd.	Yds. 1,500	937 8 0	at 10 Annas per yd.	Yds 2,000	1,250 0 0	*at* 9 Annas per yd.	Yds. 2,500	1,406 4 0
Woollen Cloths			4,812 8 0			4,881 4 0			5,587 8 0
Total			2,28,595 11 0			2,45,257 14 0			2,83,867 8 0

(Signed) R. STEWART, *Offg. Superintendent.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE;
ZILLAH CACHAR,
The 2nd November 1858.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD, *Head Assistant.*

Appendix K.

STATEMENT showing the increase to the Salaries of the present Cachar Establishment, proposed by the Superintendent.

Designation of Offices.	Present Salary.	Proposed Salary.	Increase.
Judicial Department.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
Head English Writer	50 0 0	60 0 0	*10 0 0
2nd Ditto Ditto	15 0 0	30 0 0	15 0 0
Sherishtadar	50 0 0	80 0 0	30 0 0
Record-keeper	20 0 0	30 0 0	10 0 0
Assistant Ditto	7 0 0	10 0 0	3 0 0
Duftree	3 0 0	5 0 0	2 0 0
	145 0 0	215 0 0	70 0 0
Dewanny Department.			
Moonshee	25 0 0	35 0 0	10 0 0
Head Mohurir	10 0 0	20 0 0	10 0 0
2nd Ditto	8 0 0	10 0 0	2 0 0
Nazir	12 0 0	15 0 0	3 0 0
	55 0 0	80 0 0	25 0 0
Fouzdarry Department.			
Moonshee	25 0 0	35 0 0	10 0 0
Head Mohurir	10 0 0	20 0 0	10 0 0
2nd Ditto	9 0 0	15 0 0	6 0 0
3rd Ditto	8 0 0	10 0 0	2 0 0
4th Ditto	7 0 0	8 0 0	1 0 0
5th Ditto	6 0 0	8 0 0	2 0 0
Nazir	7 0 0	15 0 0	8 0 0
Jemadar	4 0 0	5 0 0	1 0 0
Duftree	3 0 0	4 0 0	1 0 0
Jail Darogah	7 0 0	15 0 0	8 0 0
	86 0 0	135 0 0	49 0 0
Revenue Department.			
Moonshee	25 0 0	35 0 0	10 0 0
Head Mohurir	15 0 0	20 0 0	5 0 0
2nd Ditto	10 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0
3rd Ditto, Map Drawer	8 0 0	12 0 0	4 0 0
4th Ditto	8 0 0	10 0 0	2 0 0
5th Ditto	7 0 0	8 0 0	1 0 0
6th Ditto	6 0 0	7 0 0	1 0 0
Duftree	8 0 0	4 0 0	1 0 0
Nazir	7 0 0	15 0 0	8 0 0
Buxee	4 0 0	5 0 0	1 0 0
Assistant Treasurer	6 0 0	7 0 0	1 0 0
Podar	8 0 0	10 0 0	2 0 0
Sudder Head Assistant Tussil Mohurir	7 0 0	10 0 0	3 0 0
Ditto 2nd Ditto Ditto	6 0 0	7 0 0	1 0 0
Mofussil Tussil Mohurir	12 0 0	15 0 0	3 0 0
1 Ditto Ditto	9 0 0	15 0 0	6 0 0
1 Ditto Ditto	10 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0
1 Ditto Ditto	10 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0
1 Ditto Ditto	10 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0
1 Ditto Ditto	10 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0
6 Muddut Mohurirs, at Rupees 6 each	24 0 0	36 0 0	12 0 0
	205 0 0	291 0 0	86 0 0
Abkaree Department.			
English Writer	20 0 0	25 0 0	5 0 0
Head Mohurir	12 0 0	20 0 0	8 0 0
	32 0 0	45 0 0	13 0 0
Grand Total	523 0 0	766 0 0	243 0 0

* NOTE—*By the Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.*

If the Head English Clerk applied for (see Para. 110 of the Report) be sanctioned, this increase will not be required, and the total increase of Salaries recommended will amount to Rs. 233.

W. J. ALLEN,
Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.

CACHAR;
The 9th July 1857.

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Officiating Superintendent.

(True Copy)

S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

Appendix L.

STATEMENT showing the Increase of the Cachar Establishment proposed by the Superintendent of Cachar.

Department.	Designation of Offices.	Amount of Salary per Mensem. Rs. As. P.	Total. Rs. As. P.	Remarks.
Revenue ...	1 Head English Writer ...	80 0 0		Note—*By the Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.*
	1 Second Ditto Ditto	30 0 0		
	1 Book-binder or Duftree ...	5 0 0		The pay of the Police Mohurir and Jemadar has been fixed according to the scale laid down in the Government Orders, No. 2891, dated July 21st 1858.
	1 Native Accountant	20 0 0		
	1 Ditto Assistant	8 0 0	143 0 0	
Abkaree ...	1 Mohurir	....	8 0 0	W. J. ALLEN, *Member of the Board of Revenue, on Deputation.*
Foujdaree...	Police.			
	Luckeepoor Thanna.			
	1 Mohurir	30 0 0		
	1 Jemadar	10 0 0		
	5 Burkundazes, at Rs. 4 each	20 0 0		
	Oil and Paper...	1 0 0	61 0 0	
	2 Burkundazes for Sudder Thannah	8 0 0		
	1 Ditto for Hyleakandy Ditto	4 0 0		
	1 Ditto for Kattegorah Ditto...	4 0 0	16 0 0	
	Total, Rupees ...	... ...	228 0 0	

Superintendent's Office;
Zillah Cachar,
The 9th July 1857.

(Signed) R. STEWART,
Officiating Superintendent.

(True Copy)
S. BIRD,
Head Assistant.

John Gray, "Bengal Hurkaru" Press.